

SAC lunch

The Student Activities Council presents SAC Lunch from noon to 3 p.m. Thursday Jan. 24 in J.W. Jones Student Union. A photo booth will be available for free photos.

Football team to celebrate season

The Northwest football team will celebrate the 2007 football season with a rally from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 9, in Bearcat Arena. The public is invited to attend.

Couple endows art scholarship

1964 Northwest Alumna Dorothy Myers Rice and her husband Donald, of St. Louis, donated \$49,000 toward an endowed scholarship. For more information call the Northwest Foundation at 562-1248.

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LECTURE SERIES

'Super Size Me' director to speak Spurlock talks about minimum-wage living

By Sean Comer
Political Reporter

Ladies and gentlemen, soon promoting social change at a campus near you: "Super Size Me" director Morgan Spurlock.

The independent documentary filmmaker will speak at 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 31 in the Charles Johnson Theater. Spurlock's first college speaking engagement following the release of his latest film, "Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden?", will focus on he and his wife living a month on minimum wage for Spurlock's FX show "30 Days."

Spurlock's presentation will include his "30 Days" experience screened in its entirety and a question-and-answer session right after.

"I was ... wanting something that would really grab the students' attention," Student Activities Council Lecture Chairman Wesley Miller said. "Mass media people are really interested in him, because he's a writer and TV producer."

Spurlock began his career paying people to perform unusual stunts for his then-webcast "I Bet You Will." MTV later developed the show into a full-fledged series in 2002. "Super Size Me" followed in 2004 and followed Spurlock's quest to live only on McDonald's food for a month. FX debuted "30 Days" in 2005. The show tracked people's 30-day lifestyle changes in the style of "Super Size Me".

Independent Film Club adviser Will Murphy defines Spurlock's work as a sort of "guerrilla journalism vein" that redefines documentary filmmaking.

"It's that kind of get-in-get-involved spirit that they have," Murphy said. "He's one of my personal favorite documentarians because he actually gets in and does these things. It makes it all the more personal, it makes you connect. It makes him all the more vibrant a storyteller."

Murphy believes dismissing "Super Size Me" as a "starving artist" stunt shortchanges what Spurlock and similar filmmakers like Michael Moore really contribute.

"Pay close attention to his honesty," Murphy said. "It's the fact that these guys go out and put themselves on the line, that they don't look at themselves as multi-million-dollar movie machines. . . . You get somebody who goes out, uses themselves as the guinea pig, and reports on that. That's what makes (Moore and Spurlock) likeable, that's what makes them affable."

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT

Maryville Public Safety improves through grant

By Dominic Genetti
Community News Editor

Surveillance technology for Maryville Public Safety just got a boost.

The department was recently given \$11,500 for a new XOA Series Portable Video Surveillance System through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"We're very pleased to be able to get that, because it's certainly a piece of equipment that will benefit us as an investigative tool where it ultimately benefits the community as a whole," Maryville Public Safety Director Keith Wood said.

U.S. Congressman Sam Graves announced Dec. 20 Maryville Public Safety along with Northwest Campus Safety would receive funding for new surveillance.

Northwest Campus Safety received \$8,499 for a Detection/Deterrence Search and Surveillance System.

"It is essential that our rural communities have the resources they need to respond to emergencies," Graves said in a statement to the media. "I am proud to support this funding for Maryville."

Usage for the new equipment is still being planned, but Wood said more ideas should stir after a department official is sent to train with the tools.

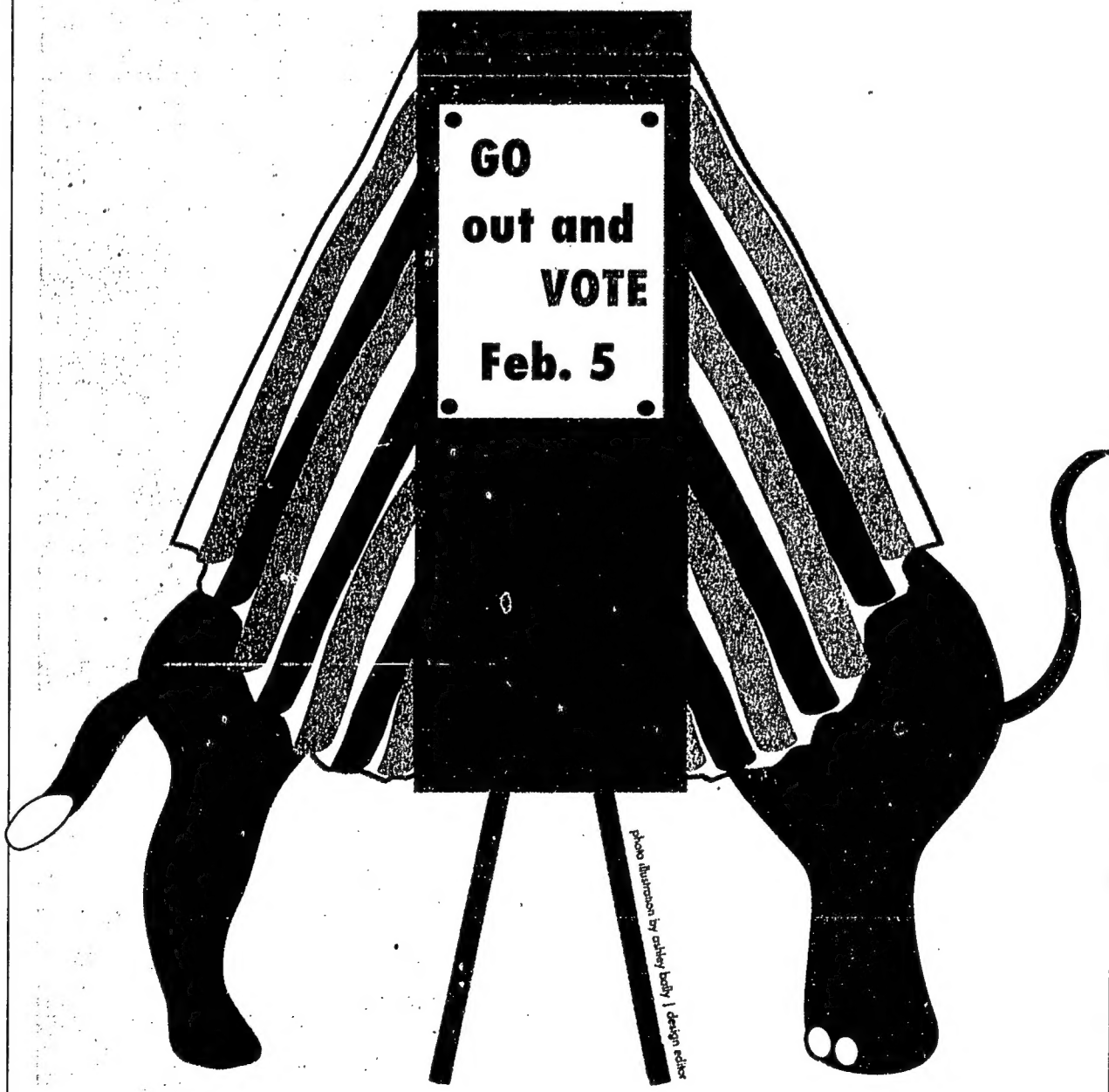
"We have some ideas most generally in a covert setting," Wood said. "We can distribute it or set it out at places where we're having problems. People won't know if it's even around or present."

"I would imagine that after we've completed the training, that some of the ideas on (the equipment) uses will become more evident."

Mostly camera equipment, the new surveillance tools allow police to analyze certain areas.



Morgan Spurlock
"Super Size Me" director



Missouri Primary Election

By Sean Comer
Political Reporter

Registered voters may cast their ballots for the Missouri Primary 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5. Absentee voters may pick up ballots from Nodaway County Clerk Beth Hann at the downtown courthouse in Maryville or request them by mail. Voters may mail ballots until Jan. 30, but absentee ballots will be accepted until the day before the election, Hann said.

Voters voting in person must bring identification. Hann recommends either a driver's license or yellow voter registration card.

Voters may cast their ballots at the following locations, by county:

Atchison — Clearmont Fire Station
Grant — Barnard Legion Hall
Green — Quitman Township Barn
Hopkins — Hopkins Community Center
Hughes — Graham Community Center
Independence — Parnell City Hall
Jackson — Ravenwood Community Building
Jefferson — Conception 123 School
Lincoln — Elmo Citizens Bank Bldg
Monroe — Skidmore Newton Community Building
Nodaway — Burlington Junction City Hall
Polk Township A and D — Maryville Laura Street Baptist Church
■ East side of Maryville with Main Street as the dividing line
Polk Township B, C and W — Maryville First Christian Church
■ West side of Maryville with Main Street as the dividing line and north of Lincoln Street
Polk Township E — Maryville High School Superintendent
■ West side of Maryville with Main Street as the dividing line and south of Lincoln Street
Union — Pickering Community Building
Washington — Guilford Community Building
White Cloud — Arkoe North Missouri Builders

Call Beth Hann at 582-2251 for more information.

Singer

Singer Meg Allison will perform at 6 p.m., Tuesday, at J.W.'s in the J.W. Jones Student Union as part of the Student Activities Council's Unplugged program.

The event is free.

Blood drive

Student Senate will host a campus blood drive from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom.

Math scholarship established

Northwest has created a memorial scholarship for 1954 Alumnus and retired faculty member George Barratt. The scholarship is worth \$10,000 and will be awarded to a student with a major in the mathematics and statistics department.

MARYVILLE GROWTH

Capital Improvement Tax up for April vote

By Kenny Larabee
Chief Reporter

City street improvements, aging infrastructure repairs and the development of a recreational trail system are just a few of the items that would be funded if the citizens of Maryville vote for a Capital Improvement Tax on April 8.

If approved by voters, the Capital Improvement Tax would increase the city's sales tax by one half of one cent, raising it from 7.475 percent to 7.975 percent for a period of 10 years.

That would generate an estimated \$7.9 million for projects the city has pinpointed. The city council has approved the referendum to be voted on with a 10-year sunset provision.

Although city streets and infrastructure are primary targets of allocating the taxes, there are some things the tax will not fund, such as personnel costs and employee benefits. A tentative outline of what the tax would cover is included in the sidebar.

Although not etched in stone, the Capital Improvement Tax will have guidelines as to what the city will use the money for, Maryville City Manager Matt LeCerc said.

"The benefit of the capital improvement is just that it controls how you can spend that money rather

See TAX on A6

COMMUNITY PROFILE

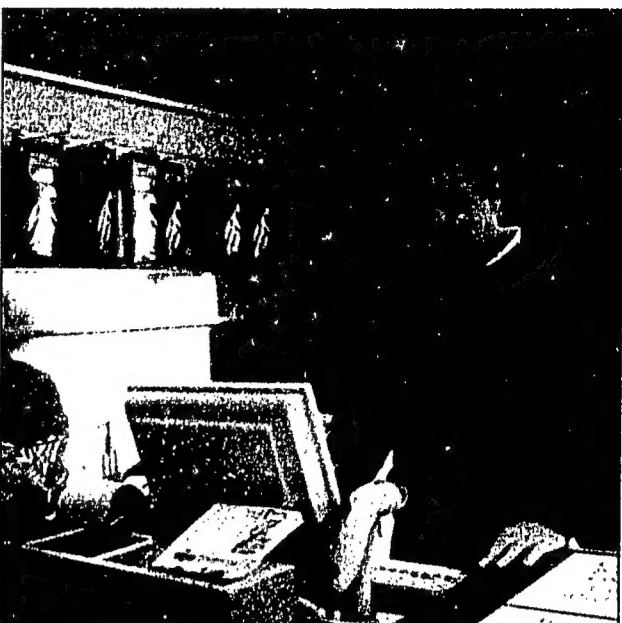


photo by ashley spalding | chief photographer

RICK SHULTZ of Maryville manages Mazingo Lake Golf Course also during golf season gives lessons to beginning and well developed golfers.

Golf remains life-long affair

By Micheal Clements
Chief Reporter

Snow blankets Mazingo Lake Golf Course while course pro and manager Rick Shultz works around the clubhouse impatiently waiting for the snow to melt.

"My father played golf, so when I was born, I was the second child and he wanted to make a golfer out of me," Shultz said. "In the summer when I was 8, we moved to west Omaha to a new home right behind a golf course, which I'm sure he had something to do with. So I took an interest in playing."

Going on to play golf in high school and college, Shultz eventually became a member of the Professional Golfers Association.

The Omaha city champion and second place finisher in a United States Golf Association national tournament, Shultz got into the PGA after college.

While playing in college, Shultz met his wife at a golf tournament. Together, they have raised three children, who grew up living at three golf courses in Omaha.

"I'm sure they will admit that their life has been pretty strange because of golf," Shultz said. "My first 10 years I worked for the city of Omaha and as you became

See GOLF on A6

See GRANT on A6

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Homecoming 2008 meeting planned

The first meeting for the 2008 Northwest Homecoming will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom.

Topics for the meeting include themes and by-law changes. For more information, e-mail s2560777@nwmissouri.edu

Study Abroad session set for Monday

There will be an information booth in the J.W. Jones Student Union from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday about Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific study abroad programs.

An information session will be held at 2 p.m. in the International Inter-cultural Center conference room. For more information call 562-1015.

Improvisation class begins Saturday

A creative movement improvisation class begins from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday on the third floor of Martin-Luther Hall in the dance studios.

The class is held on Saturdays and open to everyone ages 17 through 75. It mixes movement activities and relaxation exercises to reduce stress.

The classes are free. Participants are asked to wear light exercise clothing. For more information contact Rhonda Vetter at 562-1962 or e-mail rvetter@nwmissouri.edu.

DIGEM

Group takes over Bearcat Greetings

Students keep skills fresh by making e-cards

By Shane Sherwood
Chief Reporter

DigEM is known for its electronic media. Now it will be known for its Bearcat Greetings. Digital Electronic Media is an organization that helps Interactive Digital Media (IDM) majors get involved with the industry through Flash, web design and mobile technology organizations.

Bearcat Greetings, which started three years ago, is now being taken over by DigEM. The Web site will be maintained by the organization, along with making current greetings better and inventing new greetings for various holidays and times of the year, Mass Communication Department Chair Jody Strauch said.

DigEM is hoping to get the word out on Bearcat Greetings sometime soon.

"Because not everyone knows about Bearcat Greetings, we hope to start a bid advertisement campaign to inform people," Strauch said.

Mass Communications instructor Jacquie Lamer approached DigEM and asked if the group would like to be in charge of Bearcat Greetings.

UNIVERSITY ARCHITECT, SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

Mullins takes new University position

By Lisa Houtchens
Chief Reporter

Her first job out of college was helping build a guest-house for the Sultan of Brunei.

"It was phenomenal, because I was working on a project for one of the richest men in the world," she said.

Becky Mullins recently accepted a new position at Northwest as university architect and sustainability coordinator.

Her dream of being an architect began while growing up in central Montana.

"I remember very distinctly in the third grade we were studying about the pyramids," Mullins said. "I was absolutely astounded that people could actually come up with this great idea of a pyramid, and that's when I thought that's what I want to do in life."

Her big revelation was in junior high school.

"My dad would take me to his office and have me do some work, and one of the people he worked with was an architect and she was a woman," Mullins said. "That was kind of a big revelation to me at the time to know that women could do those kinds of things."

She spent time in West Africa with the Peace Corps after she graduated

from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a bachelor's degree. During her stay in Africa, she taught at an Irish Catholic mission school, teaching hand sewing to the women of the school, Mullins said.

Mullins then attended the University of Kansas and earned a master's degree in architecture.

"I'm one of the few people who have a degree from both MU and KU," Mullins said.

It wasn't until after spending time in West Africa that Mullins finalized her plans to become an architect, she said.

"I remember thinking 'I can do this,'" Mullins said.

Mullins began working closely with Northwest 13 years ago as part of a private architecture firm. She has helped the University with projects such as renovations to the University Wellness Center, Garrett-Strong Science building, the Olive Deluce Fine Arts building, Colden Hall, North Apartments, South Complex and J.W. Jones Student Union. She also helped build the Tower Suites.

As University architect, she will be doing broad range planning to specific projects, small projects and in-house projects as well. She is on the design and construction team that will focus on the small and in-house projects.

The new position Mullins has as sustainability coordinator will help bring more focus to the University's efforts in energy conservation, renewable fuels and recycling, among other areas, she said.

"It's becoming more important of universities to think about sustainability," Mullins said. "Hopefully I can bring more focus and attention to sustainability on campus."

Assistant Director of Environmental Services, Dave Duvall has worked with Mullins over the years.

"She will bring a whole new level of quality to what we do," Duvall said.

A normal day for Mullins is guiding people with the expertise and decision making for their projects, Mullins said. That is what she hopes to do with her new job here at Northwest, she said.

Mullins lives in Lawrence, Kan. with her husband. She has a son who lives in Wichita, Kan. She will be commuting from Lawrence to Maryville for four to five days a week for her new job, she said.

There are many things that Mullins likes about being an architect, but the most is the creativity.

"My favorite part is the creativity, there is so many different ways to solve problems and make a difference in peoples lives," Mullins said.



BECKY MULLINS, UNIVERSITY architect and sustainability coordinator, reflects on previous work in architecture before accepting the new position at Northwest. Mullins has been a part of several University construction projects for the past 13 years.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE



(left to right) MILDRED POPE; MARCUS Williams and Cassandra Brington performed a step routine in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Celebration, held in the Union Ballroom.

ENCORE

Dance company to perform 'Carmen'

By Lisa Houtchens
Chief Reporter

A gypsy, a young soldier and a bullfighter battle for love.

Northwest will host "Carmen" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Performing Arts Center. This opera turned ballet will be the first 2008 Encore performance. One of Russia's dance companies, the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre will perform.

Around 30 students will perform the ballet. All of the students participating attend the St. Petersburg State Academic Ballet

Theatre located in St. Petersburg, Russia, company manager Michel Schaller said.

The performance runs along the same lines the opera does, minus the singing. It will be completely focused on dancing. Campus Activities Director Angel McAdams Prescott said.

The tour kicked off Jan. 3 in Florida and the group will continue traveling the United States until May 5. There are 113 performers traveling with the company.

Alisa Svetschnikova is playing the lead role of Carmen, the

gypsy.

"I very much enjoy the musical version that we are performing," Svetschnikova said. "This is a very original version for us to do because no singing is involved."

The St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre has not performed for Northwest before but there have been other ballet companies that have in the past, McAdams Prescott said.

The event is open to the community and to students.

"We hope they have an enjoyable time and they get their money's worth from the performance," McAdams Prescott said.

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COMMUNITY

CAPITOL EVENT

Maryville takes part in Great Northwest Day at the Capitol

By Kenny Larabee
Chief Reporter

Maryville citizens and community leaders have the opportunity to make their presence known at Missouri's state capital when they travel to take part in the Great Northwest Day at the Capitol.

Fifteen other counties will join Nodaway County in representing northwest Missouri at the Great Northwest Day at the Capitol Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 5 and 6.

The event serves to give the region an opportunity to present issues to state legislators that are important to residents in the northwest corner of the state, Maryville Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lisa Luke said.

"We figure that collectively we can get more accomplished or be heard, make a bigger impact than when we're going down individually," Luke said.

Maryville Mayor Chad Jackson gave another reason for the trip.

"It's really going down there and making ourselves known, that we do care, that the things they do in Jeff City do impact us, and this is how," Jackson said.

Prevailing wage, wastewater treatment and economic development are just some of the issues that the group plans to present to legislators.

Luke, who coordinates Nodaway County's involvement in the event, said that identifying

issues for the trip is a year round project.

"We are what we consider the voice for small businesses, a lot of our small businesses can't get away, can't go to Jefferson City, don't have the time to watch some of the legislation that comes in," Luke said. "We keep an eye on any legislation that might be coming down that will have an impact on our businesses. So that's done all year round, that's just not a one year thing."

Although the Chamber of Commerce represents small businesses, the issues the group takes with them will encompass all of the region, community and business alike, Luke said.

"In order to get this list, to develop our list, of course we listen to our businesses and we certainly watch any legislation that's coming down that might affect small businesses," Luke said. "But we also visit with and get issues from the Nodaway County Commission, the Regional Council of Governments, which is located here in Maryville, Nodaway County Economic Development, the Health Department, the hospital, any entity that has any type of bills or anything that they're concerned with we ask for information from them."

"In order for our businesses to be prosperous and to grow, our community has to be strong and have a strong economic growth," Maryville Area Day at the Capitol will coincide with the event, but many of the issues will remain the same, Luke said.

"Right now, our issues that we have identified for the Great Northwest Day pretty much mirror the issues that we are having right here in Nodaway County and Maryville," Luke said. "So we'll be reiterating a lot of this information and asking them, 'how can we help you?'"

The event will begin with the group being introduced to the House and Senate, followed by a luncheon and then visits with legislators. A lot of the face time with legislators is invaluable, Luke said.

"The legislators and department heads, their aides, they go around to each community, visit with individual communities about what's going on in their town, we hand them information, all of that good stuff. A lot of face time with the legislators, and a lot of times you don't get that."

Jackson reiterated the value of the event.

"If nothing else, people, the legislators, realize that they, northwest Missouri doesn't stop at St. Joe or doesn't stop at Kansas City," Jackson said. "How Kansas City and St. Louis do business is going to be different than how rural Missouri does business and if you can compromise and

Quick facts

According to greatnorthwestday.com, the legislative priorities for the Great Northwest Day at the Capitol are highlighted by:

■ **Wastewater Treatment**
Incident/assess/fund rural communities to meet Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Natural Resources regulations
Give preference to cities needing immediate upgrade
Monitor possible increased DNR fees
Eliminate funding tied to income level:

■ **Regional Water Coalition**
Seek state assistance for 12-county water partnership
Support Northwest Water Partnership - Sketch 7
Increase SRF Funding limits/reduce interest rates

■ **Economic Development**
Establish Missouri Economic Development Code for voluntary local tax incentives
Establish Small Business And Entrepreneurial Growth Act for small employers

■ **Economic Development Organization Tax Credit** for donations to economic development organizations
School District Bonding Capacity to include abated properties in assessed valuation
Funding for training and development in rural areas
Employer incentives for employees to seek post-secondary education

■ **Prevailing Wage**
Eliminate for rural communities and counties for public facilities
Eliminate for rural school improvements
Mandate local wage reporting to obtain accurate local wage averages

put stipulations in there that would be fair to both areas, that might be the best thing.

"Just networking with the people that are down there is another strong benefit of that."

COMMUNITY DISPOSAL

Holt County to host e-waste disposal

By Dominic Genetti
Community News Editor

With technology advancing on practically a daily basis, baseboards, closets and attics are getting cluttered with old electronics.

Some may hold onto that old Mac or PC, but some want to get rid of it. However, living in northwest Missouri, it's not easy to throw out those old monitors and keyboards.

"Being in a rural region here, we don't have anywhere to dispose of it," said Amy Stoner, northwest Missouri regional planner. "If you want to take your old computer somewhere, you would have to drive to North Kansas City."

That was the case, but this year things will be different for area residents looking to get rid of what the Northwest Missouri Regional Solid Waste Management District is calling "e-waste."

"We do one collection every five years, so people can bring in anything they want and drop it off," Stoner said. "Because there's such a turnover of how fast things are being used and how fast technology progresses, a lot of it ends up in landfills."

Currently, there's no law on where it has to go. The solid

waste department at Missouri Department of Natural Resources is looking at how this is going to effect our environment."

Holt County will be the drop-off location for 2008 and the service is free to county residents. County residents in Nodaway, Gentry and Atchison pay a fee to dispose.

"That's the way it's supposed to work," Holt County Commissioner Mark Sitherwood said. "We don't ID everyone that comes."

Plans for the one-day event are still undetermined, but Sitherwood believes the drop-off will be in Oregon, Mo. sometime in the upcoming spring.

"We're glad it's available to happen and wish we could do it more often," Sitherwood said.

Citizens who don't want to wait can ship unwanted electronics for free through Costco Wholesale Corporation.

Costco has teamed with GreenSight Technologies to allow residents to get rid of e-waste. Citizens could be eligible for rewards through Costco depending on the age and condition on certain devices.

For more information on e-waste disposal in northwest Missouri visit E-cycle.org and Costco.com

NEW CITY SEAL

Maryville looking to improve image with proposed new seal

By Kenny Larabee
Chief Reporter

Maryville may soon be getting a new look, at least in the form of a new city seal.

The City of Maryville officially proposed the seal at the last city council meeting on Jan. 14. The look they were striving for was something that signified what the city is all about, Maryville City Manager Matt LeClerc said.

"What we tried to encompass though is education, agriculture and industrial into this picture in some form or fashion," LeClerc said. "Because those are the primary elements of what

make Maryville so great."

The city had a logo before, but not exactly a seal, perse. The logo features a picture of the county courthouse and the Northwest administration building; county and state entities. However, there was nothing on a city level, something that Maryville Mayor Chad Jackson was striving to achieve.

"We really didn't have anything, that really defined, 'this is Maryville,'" Jackson said. "We had some stuff that maybe represents Northwest or represents the county, but nothing really for the city."

So city officials went to work on a design, LeClerc said.

"We wanted to try to create a marketing tool or a branding tool by which we can increase our visibility beyond Maryville," LeClerc said. "So we asked an in-house guy to design some seals and after a lot of work and changes to the design, this is what we've managed to come up with."

As of now, the seal is yet to be finalized. City officials are waiting to see what citizens of Maryville think of the seal.

"If people got feedback on that I'd encourage them to give that," Jackson said. "Say 'hey, I thought about this' or 'hey, it looks great' or if they're aware of something else that maybe

represents Maryville a little bit more distinct, feel free to share that. It's not set in stone yet."

As for LeClerc, he said that the old logo represents qualities that are great in Maryville, but the new seal also defines that as well.

"I think it does look good. I think comparatively speaking to what we had before and just the fact that we didn't have a seal, I think it really is characteristic of the city of Maryville," LeClerc said. "It gives us more of a personal identity in terms of the city itself."

"I think it's working in the right direction."

AREA WATER

Regional Council receives grant for water project

By Micheal Clements
Chief Reporter

A long-term plan connecting seven major water supplies in northwest Missouri gets a jumpstart in funding grants.

Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Government has received a grant worth \$2.8 million for the first phase of the regional water project that would eventually connect seven water hubs supplying water to 12 counties in northwest Missouri.

The first phase, in Atchison County could take three to five years and the project may last up to 20 years, NWM-RCG director Tye Parsons said.

"We want to create a water grid for the region," Parsons said. "When the whole thing is all said and done, it will allow 84 different water producers access across Northwest Missouri."

The plan consist of five phases, with the first phase being the largest. The goal of the project is to provide safe and clean drinking water to the region. The ground water table in northwest Missouri is steadily decreasing, Parsons said.

Atchison County will receive \$2.2 million of the grant money, and the other \$600,000 is for the towns of Clearmont, Burlington Junction and Hopkins in Nodaway County, Parsons said.

Water districts will have the option to buy water through the water grid. Townships will not be forced to connect to the grid, Parsons said.

Maryville Director of Public Works Greg Decker said the city would be a hub to supply water once the city is connected to the grid.

"They're overall plan is attempt to loop the northwest region and Maryville together so no one would basically be without water," Decker said.

Nodaway County is 100 percent supportive of the plan, Commissioner Bob Stiens said.

"It's absolutely a must to get water to everybody in the county,"

Stiens said.

All of Maryville's water comes from Moxingno Lake, Maryville city manager Matt LeClerc said.

"More evaporation occurs than what we take out," LeClerc said. "There's plenty of water in Moxingno."

Doyle Childers is the director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and authorized the grant money toward the initial stage of the project.

"I'm very happy that Doyle Childers seems fit that we deserve the grants," Stiens said.

More funding at state, federal and local levels will be required to complete the project, Parsons said.

Enjoy a Night of Ballet

NORTHWEST ENCORE SERIES PRESENTS

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production of

CARMEN

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 30
Performing Arts Center

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OUR VIEW

Celebrity news overshadows what's serious

More than a few computers across the Northwest campus stumbled on to Perez Hilton.com and TMZ.com Tuesday afternoon to find the latest tragic story from young Hollywood — Heath Ledger, found dead at just 28 years old.

But the major news outlets across the country also reported the news about the Oscar-nominated star. Ledger's was the lead story for CNN, Fox News and many other media outlets Tuesday. Even the old Gray Lady, the *New York Times*, had Ledger as a front-page story on its Web site.

Is this where we're headed? Day-to-day celebrity tragedies and train wrecks—traditionally the stuff of tabloids and the aforementioned gossip sites—are slowly making their way onto the front and home pages of "hard" news organizations.

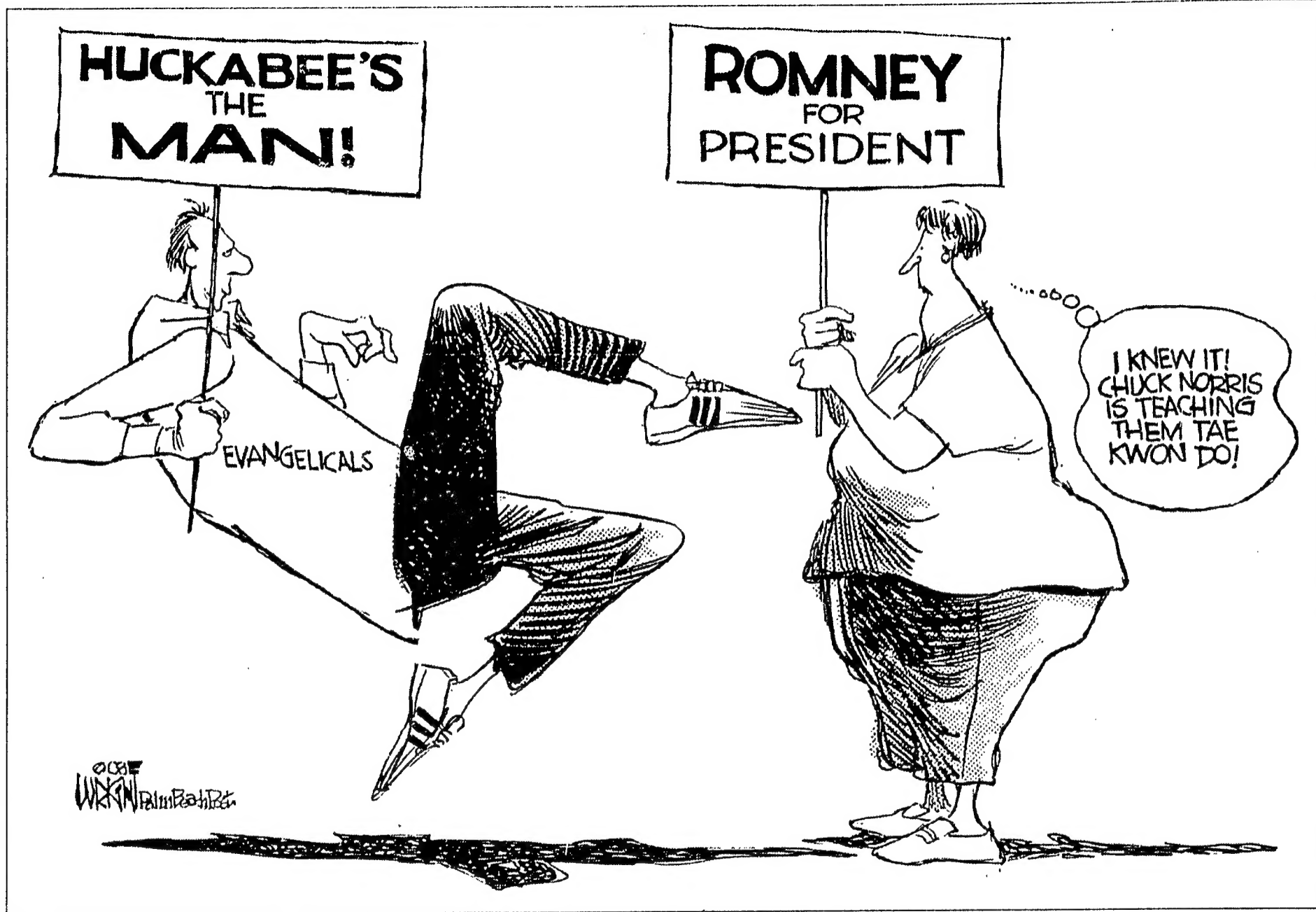
We depend on these guys to tell us when Congress predicts the federal deficit will reach \$250 billion in 2008, or when a loaded gun slips through airport security in Washington, D.C.

By the way, those are real, very serious stories that broke this week. Kind of makes Britney Spears' custody battle as newsworthy as a bridge club meeting, doesn't it?

In October 2007, the Pew Research Center released a shocking study of U.S. media coverage. An overwhelming percentage of Americans, 40 percent, believed that media outlets spent too much time covering celebrity news and Hollywood gossip. Participants were not old either; 47 percent were under age 50.

Sure, celebrities deserve their fair share of coverage. After all, they wouldn't be "celebrities" if they weren't famous. But an American public so saturated in celebrity news that it blows off news about, say, its country's iffy economy is more dangerous than Lindsay Lohan in Hy-Vee Wine and Spirits.

We at the Northwest Missourian encourage the world's news leaders, the group of high-caliber journalists we admire, to take a second look at their definition of what's newsworthy. The celebrity gossip we crave is fine, but not when it comes at the expense of the news we need.



MY VIEW

Margin of error too high, time to update Electoral College

From the birth of our country, the Founding Fathers asked a simple question that became a bit of a dilemma: How do we exercise authority while including the public? A perfect example is the Electoral College system. Is the Electoral College perfect? No.

Sure, it's pretty good, but there are some flaws that need addressing. I must once again emphasize the importance of reform not only in a democracy, but in any and all types of governments.

So what are the pros and cons to the Electoral College? First, it is a wonderful

method to prevent absolute rule by the majority. Second, it most definitely emphasizes federalism by allowing the states, small and large, greater powers, which was extremely important to the designers of the United States, and still is today. And the last of the greatest benefits worthy of discussion is the popular vote distribution.

However, there is one flaw that I would really like to discuss, which two states have already remedied, Maine and Nebraska. This flaw is the "majority takes all" procedure, which basically means that whichever presidential candidate wins the

majority of the state vote wins all the electoral votes in that state, without separating it proportionally.

For example, Missouri has 11 electoral votes. Let's say that nominee A wins the majority of the votes, although nominee B isn't that far off. Nominee A would win all the electoral votes and nominee B would receive none at all. This seems very unbalanced to me.

Amazingly enough, there is a way to fix this without scrapping the Electoral College. This method is called the District Plan. Instead of the "winner take all" procedure, in every congressional district the voters would choose one elector, while the two electors representing the senate (there are two senators in every state regardless of population) would be voted on at large.

This would reflect the popular vote more accurately without removing the current method altogether.

Keep in mind that this system was designed more than 200 years ago. Would you keep any system without ever making it better for the current generation? I guess I can compare this to technology. Sure, I could use a computer from the 1980s; but why would I, if I could make that computer better, faster and more accurate?

It only makes sense to use the more accurate version, especially when deciding the next president of our country. Wouldn't you agree? Regardless, the current Electoral College works pretty well, with a 92 percent chance of getting results that aren't controversial. But 8 percent is still a little high for my level of comfort.



Kathleen Wilmes
Contributing Columnist

Nebraska. This flaw is the "majority takes all" procedure, which basically means that whichever presidential candidate wins the

MY VIEW

Presidential race lacks substance, ignores real issues

Well if you haven't heard something about the presidential primary race going on right now, you need to do a little less "Facebooking" and a little more time watching the news. For those of you feeling exceptionally ambitious, you can read the newspaper.

The candidates plowed through Iowa (pun intended), New Hampshire, Michigan, Nevada and South Carolina. Apparently the national media didn't know it, but Wyoming held a Republican Caucus. In recent primary elections, the parties have known who their respective

nominees would be by this time in the game; however this year is something very different.

On the Democratic side, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are deadlocked with each winning one and one half states. Obama upset Clinton in Iowa, but Clinton bounced back with a surprising victory in New Hampshire. The results in Nevada kept the race very tight with Hillary winning the popular vote, while Obama won 13 delegates to Clinton's 12. How about that for something new, a candidate receiving more popular votes, but losing

the delegate count! The two democratic front-runners are now heading to South Carolina where at the very least they will put John Edwards away for good. Our prediction: Obama wins South Carolina and this slugfest continues into Super "Duper" Tuesday.

The Republicans are just as confused as the Democrats. Mike Huckabee won the Iowa Caucuses. John McCain won the primaries in New Hampshire and South Carolina. Mitt Romney won in Wyoming, Michigan and Nevada. Rudy Giuliani has fallen off the radar screen, and Ron Paul is ... well he's still around! All eyes are now on Florida where the race is too close to call. Our prediction: Let's just say if we knew what was going to happen in Florida, we wouldn't be writing columns on a volunteer basis for the school paper.

This election has everything: diversity, competition, money and public interest. Interest is peaking in this election, because suddenly there is a viable black candidate and a viable female candidate; there is also a Mormon (Romney), a preacher (Huckabee), a TV celebrity (Fred Thompson) and a war hero (McCain). If we didn't know better this field of candidates sounds like the beginning of a bad joke: "A woman, a black guy, a Mormon and a preacher walk into a bar..."

Unfortunately there is one major thing lacking in this race—substance. This race is not about issues, but "electability." The Democrats can't decide which historical candidate to nominate and the Republicans don't know whom the heck they can nominate to beat the historical candidate. It is not a matter of who the voter agrees with, rather who they think can beat the other guy; such is the nature of the primary season.



Sarah York and Jeff Kanger
Contributing Columnists

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POLITICS

Northwest optimistic after State of the State Address

By Sean Comer
Political Reporter

Governor Matt Blunt's State of the State address left Northwest's administrators satisfied, optimistic — but still just a little bit cautious.

Blunt's Jan. 15 address recommended that Missouri's colleges and universities receive \$54.2 million in direct funding, a 6 percent increase.

Blunt recommended Northwest receive nearly \$33.2 million in the 2009 fiscal year. Northwest received nearly \$31.8 million in the 2008 fiscal year.

"We're very pleased that the governor has continued the efforts that were started over a year ago to restore and enhance the funding that's coming to the campus," said Ray Courter, Northwest's vice president of finance and support services. "We're pleased the economy has stayed relatively strong and they've worked their budget to allow it to happen for us."

The budget fails to take into consideration Northwest's enrollment boom for the 2007-2008 academic year because the timing for the budget doesn't permit that. However, what Provost Kichoon Yang calls a "sustainable" enrollment trend could signal continued appropriations that keep pace with Northwest's growing needs.

That can happen as long as Missouri's economy can keep pace with what the state promises, Yang said. The first six months of revenue data for the present fiscal year shows a 4.2 percent increase in state revenue, mostly from personal income tax, Yang said. That number keeps pace with at least Northwest's 4 percent appropriations increase and the increases at most Missouri colleges and universities.

"The economy is hard to predict even for economists — and I'm no economist," Yang said. "All I can tell you, is what the current data is."

Missouri still has the incentive of keeping pace with colleges and universities in neighboring states' systems. "I think the state of Missouri needs to fund Missouri public universities at a level at least comparable to what neighboring states are doing to their public universities," Yang said. "Governor Blunt and his administration, I think, are making good progress but definitely more needs to be done."

Yang approved of Blunt's commitment to increasing the need-based Access Missouri Scholarship's funding from \$25 million two years ago, to a proposed increase to nearly \$100 million in the next fiscal year. Northwest could provide up to another \$4 million of financial aid to students with the Access Missouri Scholarship fully funded, Yang said. Though he does not expect that full amount, Yang still expects to receive a "substantial



Matt Blunt
Missouri Governor

fraction" of that amount. President Dean Hubbard grew uneasy as stocks fell worldwide by about 5 percent. The sliding markets' unpredictable effects could take more than a matter of several down days to determine, Hubbard said. He keeps the economy's recent downturn in perspective by considering higher education's role in a down economy.

"The ironic thing about recessions, is that usually they're rather good for higher education," Hubbard said. "Two reasons: one, you can't get a job, you go to school. Students who are teetering when they get out of high school and say 'Well, I might get a job for a year or two and then go back to school' can't find a job and go to school."

"Secondly, in order to pull the economy out of recession ... is stimulate spending. Through that process, there's job creation. One of the things states frequently do to stimulate spending within the economy is build building on universities. I would not be surprised if the state of Missouri would not issue some bonds."

OBITUARIES

Leontine Busby, 100, Maryville, died Thursday, Jan. 10, 2008, at Parkdale Manor Care Center in Maryville.

Busby was born Sept. 9, 1907, in Bethany, Mo., the daughter of Luther and Ollie Jane (Clark) Johnson. She graduated from Bethany High School in the class of 1924 and attended Northwest Missouri State Teachers College in Maryville.

On April 21, 1928, she married Eugene Busby in Maryville. She taught school, was a sales clerk in Gates and Trevoli Vogue Dress Shops and a homemaker.

Busby was preceded in death by her husband, on Sept. 22, 1978; her parents; a brother, Homer Johnson; and sister, Anna Lea Bray.

She is survived by a son, Jack Busby, Little Rock, Ark.; a daughter, Mary Lou Benning, Atlanta; a sister, Janice Webb, Dallas; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Tuesday at Price Funeral Home Chapel in Maryville. Busby is buried at Memorial Park Cemetery in St. Joseph.

Memorials may be made to the Nodaway County Chapter of the American Cancer Society in Busby's name.

Veronica Rose Fisher Barmann, 99, died Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2008, in her home south of Maryville.

Barmann was the youngest of seven daughters of Peter Joseph Fisher and Elizabeth Jane McLarney Fisher of Easton, Mo., where she was born Aug. 3, 1908.

She attended Easton Schools and was a graduate of Easton High School in 1926 as the Salutatorian, and an outstanding captain of the championship basketball and track teams.

Barmann attended St. Teresa Junior College in Kansas City and later received her lifetime teaching certificate from the Maryville Teacher's College. She taught in one-room schools in Buchanan County before marrying Charles A. Barmann Sept. 2, 1931, at St. Joseph's Church in Easton, Mo.

She and Charles lived on the family farm near Maryville for the rest of her life. Charles preceded her in death on Jan. 28, 1994, after 63 years of marriage.

Barmann and her husband had 10 children. She has 22 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

As a lifelong Catholic, active involvement in her church was an important part of her life. As a member of St. Mary's and St. Gregory's parishes, she was active in the Legion of Mary, Women's Guild and a Eucharistic Minister. She visited the Maryville nursing homes for many years. Embracing Benedictine values, she was also a Benedictine Oblate.

Barmann was preceded in death by her parents and sisters, Ellen Gram, Beatrice Fisher, Regina Fisher, Mary Kelly, Rita Fisher and Elizabeth Gregory.

Mass of Christian burial was Monday at St. Gregory's in Maryville. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes memorials be given to Benet Hill Monastery Capital Campaign or Conception Abbey.

Raymond L. Beedle, 92, Kansas City, died Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2008.

Raymond was born in Ravenwood, Mo., the son of Howard J. and Ola E. Beedle.

He graduated from Northwest Missouri State Teachers College, Maryville, Missouri with a B.S. and A.B. degree.

He was a certified Public Accountant and co-owner of Francis A. Wright and Company, a Certified Public Accounting firm, when he

retired in 1980. During his life Raymond was an avid hunter and skeet shooter. Upon retirement, he became an accomplished golfer with five holes-in-one, the last hole-in-one occurring just days before his 90th birthday.

Raymond was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Joann Carver Beedle; brother, Howard and sister, Martha Kirkbride.

He is survived by two daughters, Sue Ann Childers and husband David A., of Ozark, Mo., grandchildren, Matthew and Benjamin; Ellen Carver Beedle and husband Bruce N. Diehl, of Overland Park, Kan. and grandchildren: Caitlin and Erin.

Funeral services were held Jan. 11, 2008 at Price Funeral Home in Maryville.

Burial is in Oak Lawn Cemetery, Ravenwood, Mo.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Red Cross or the charity of your choice.

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Have opinions? Want them heard?

The Northwest Missourian opinion page is looking for students and community members interested in being guest columnists or editorial writers for the spring trimester.

So, if you're a political animal, a news fanatic or just need to get something off your chest, feel free to submit.

If you're interested contact us by calling us in the newsroom at 660-562-1224 or e-mailing us at northwestmissourian@hotmail.com. Letters to the editor can also be submitted via e-mail.

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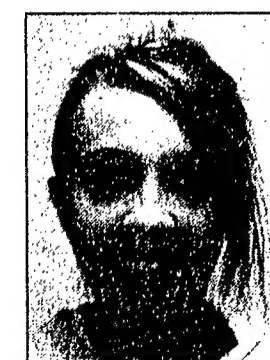
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CAMPUS TALK

What show have you missed the most since the writers' strike?



"Grey's Anatomy," because McDreamy is hot."
Kristin Gray
English



"The Office," because they only played a few episodes."
Chad Stephens
Graphic Design



"Grey's Anatomy," because now it's only reruns."
Stacey Black
Business Management



"Heroes," because I want to know what happens."
Tyler Stevens
IDM



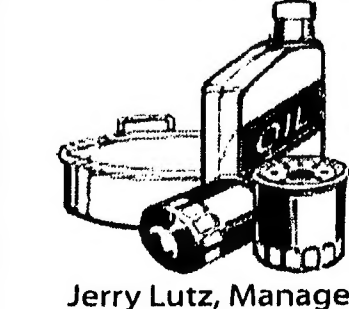
"Family Guy," because I like it and miss it."
Jake Soy
Business Management

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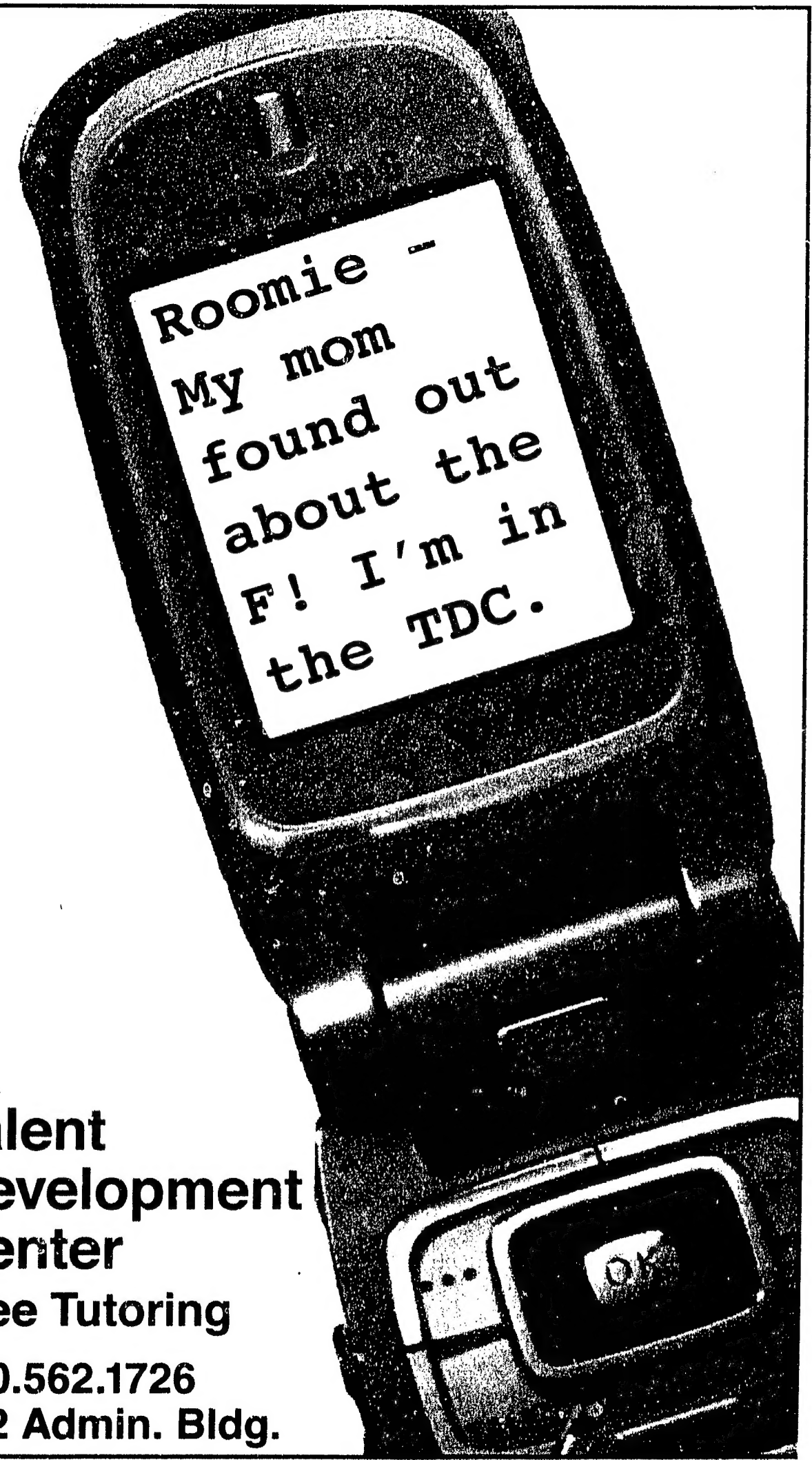


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TAX: Upcoming meetings to offer more information

Continued from A1

than just using it arbitrarily towards general operation purposes," LeCerc said. "That's not the purpose of the Capital Improvement Tax."

"We want to have a good idea of what we want to use it for, because we want to be accountable to the public, but we also need to have some flexibility with it."

An example of flexibility LeCerc gave was if something unforeseen were to happen to Main Street, the city would want to have some leeway in funding repairs for any damages.

West Fourth Street, West 16th Street, South Depot Street and White Ridge Drive are all streets that would be initial targets, LeCerc said.

"We also do need to look into the southeast portion of the city though as well and find out what other roads need to be addressed there," LeCerc said. "We shouldn't just focus on one quadrant of the city, we should try to benefit everybody with this Capital Improvement Tax."

Another issue the Capital Improvement Tax would address is the implementation of a new trail system, Maryville Mayor Chad Jackson said.

"We did a city survey recently, which I think we sent it out to 1,500 people and the response rate I think was 48 percent, 45 percent," Jackson said. "From a statistical standpoint, we got pretty good results from that. And it was either the No. 1 or No. 2 thing that people wanted to see was trail development."

The upkeep of city infrastructure is also a major concern.

"If you look at, really, cities regionally and even nationally, aging infrastructure is a prime

concern," Jackson said. "Especially on sewer treatment or sewer lines breaking."

Two town hall meetings have been scheduled to address the proposed tax, one on Monday, Feb. 25 and the other on Monday, March 10. Both will be held at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

Getting feedback from the public is important, Jackson said. "I say this quite often, but I encourage people to give their feedback," Jackson said. "A lot can be learned by just asking questions."

The town hall meetings can serve to better educate the public about the proposed tax, a goal of Jackson's. There are some issues that the city's staff would like to insure the public is informed about.

"I think what they need to understand is that we are doing this to improve the infrastructure and the city in terms of the future," LeCerc said.

"The cost of doing business for a city is increasing and unfortunately our revenues aren't increasing at a proportionate rate to keep up with that increase that's occurring."

The city staff and council has tried to be proactive on a lot of issues and a lot of fronts, Jackson said.

"We're really saying, 'hey, we got some aging issues here,'" Jackson said. "If we don't start thinking about funding now we're going to be in some serious shape."

"And we don't want to react to things, we want to be able to plan and be able to use our funds most appropriately and you can do that if you plan ahead. If you're trying to react it can get very expensive very quickly."

If passed, residents should see immediate results, Jackson said.

"We're just trying to get people what they need," Jackson said.

GOLF: Shultz played alongside legends in Senior Open

Continued from A1

more efficient at your job, they would move you to another course. To them, that's where you lived."

A downside of working as a golf course manager was not being able to take family vacations.

Working at a golf course requires working long hours, Shultz said.

Shultz applied for the manager position at Mozingo in 1994 just before the course opened. Before moving to Maryville, he worked at a country club outside of Omaha for seven years. The city wanted someone with experience to manage the course, Shultz said.

Every job opening to run a golf course normally demands a PGA member, Shultz said.

"Since moving here, it has worked

out fine for the family, my wife has a good job," Shultz said. "It wasn't that big of a change and I've never missed Omaha since moving here."

While it may be hard finding time to play the game, he never has to drag himself to work.

"My wife works at a dentist office and people that walk in there are not too happy to come to her place of business," Shultz said. "Just about everybody that walks in here are happy to be here, they want to be here, they are dying to be here."

After turning 50, Shultz qualified to play in the Senior Open in Boston.

"I have a picture of myself practicing, hitting balls and there's me, and there's Jack Nicklaus, and then there's Arnold Palmer and although those are older guys with old names,

it meant a lot to me to be able to play in this event."

Shultz is also a professional PGA teacher helping golfers of all ages to work on their golf game.

"If you can help someone to improve, it's a big thrill for them and for me," Shultz said.

He describes Mozingo as an open course without boundaries. Hitting a ball beyond a boundary means the golf ball goes out of bounds, Shultz said.

"When you play here, you wouldn't hear a plane, you wouldn't hear a train whistle, it's rare you hear a car," Shultz said. "You really get to play out in the country when you play here, and I suppose that's the part I like the most about it."

Natalie Hamilton worked with Shultz at Mozingo during summer

months from the spring of 2003 until the fall of 2006. Hamilton describes Shultz as a kind person who was great to work with.

"He definitely knows what he is doing. He has a love for the game of golf," Hamilton said.

Mozingo has been closed for eight weeks due to ice and snow. Before last year, the longest the course shutdown was four weeks. While closed, people working at the course clean, repaint and prepare for the next year.

Shultz is anxious to open the course up for play once the course dries out. While being a golfer for nearly 50 years, he still enjoys working at a golf course and playing.

"My desire to practice and work on my own game has never gone away," he said.

GRANT: City benefits

Continued from A1

"With this, it's less man power intensive; you can set it up and you don't have to camp out on it, get the film back, see if the event occurs again and see who your perpetrator is," Wood said.

"We often have problems at locations where we might have things repeated over and over again, and historically, in order to catch something like that you have to put a person there and take the long shot that you're going to be able to observe the incident take place again."

Despite the new equipment being new to public safety, Wood said the community benefits as well.

"Every new tool that you can put on your belt just makes you that much better at your job," Wood said. "Even in a community this size or smaller, if you're having a problem and don't have the right tools to take care of it with, then the community doesn't benefit or it's at the community's expense to be a repeat victim in whatever shape or form."

CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

Group helps international students feel at home

By Shane Sherwood
Chief Reporter

Getting international students into American homes is the main goal of Friends of International Students (FIS).

FIS helps international students and community members better understand different cultures, International Affairs Director Jeffrey Foot said.

International students who get involved with FIS also learn personal culture of other people, Foot said.

International students who are interested in learning more about the American culture can apply and attend an orientation meeting. They are then set up with a friend from the community to help them achieve their goal of knowing about American culture.

"Someone can say they've been to the Leaning Tower of Pisa or the pyramids in Mexico, but they cannot see their culture unless they see them in their personal home," Foot said.

As FIS members, students are required to meet or contact their friend at least once a month and participate in two events a semester, Foot said.

"Some students are more involved than others," Foot said. "It's really up to the student to know how involved they'd like to be."

FIS is also looking to get involved in a peer mentoring environment.

"We are investigating on how we can branch out and add a student to student mentoring association, but it is in the works," Foot said.

Membership in the organization is open to any member of the community, Foot said. Applications are accepted at all times throughout the year, but friends are only chosen at the beginning of the fall and spring trimesters, Foot said.

Northwest students are also accepted as friends in FIS.

"We do accept some students as friends, but the students who are chosen need to realize there are responsibilities that may keep them from being as active in other organizations or by keeping them from getting as active as they would like in FIS," English as a Second Language teacher Anne Lech said.

Lech said FIS has about 30 members a trimester.

There are many reasons international students like to get involved in FIS, Lech said.

"Many of these students feel a lot of loneliness," Lech said. "They're also often just unfamiliar with how things work. If they can pick up the phone and call someone about a question they have or ask for advice, that's a very important link."

FIS began in Fall 2004.

"Jeff Foot and I agreed to bring together a steering committee that would look into the possibility of organizing a community friendship group," Lech said. "Many of those people who had approached Jeff and me earlier about starting a program were included."

It took two months of meetings and decision making, and FIS was ready to accept their first group of members, Lech said.

Community members can be friends or they can host a small group of international students for a meal or activity, Lech said.

People can also serve on the FIS Board of Directors, Lech said. These individuals are in charge of membership, matching friends, organizing group activities and developing the goals of the FIS organization.

SPORTS

NW MEN'S BASKETBALL



NORTHWEST GUARD MOSE HOWARD drives to the hoop against Missouri Southern. Howard averages 9.3 points per game. The Bearcats host Central Missouri Saturday. The Mules and Bearcats are tied for third in the conference at 3-3. Southwest Baptist owns the top spot at 6-1, while Missouri Southern is 4-2.

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SPOONHOUND SOPHOMORE EMILY KISKER will be counted on for scoring, as she leads the team with 13.9 points per game.

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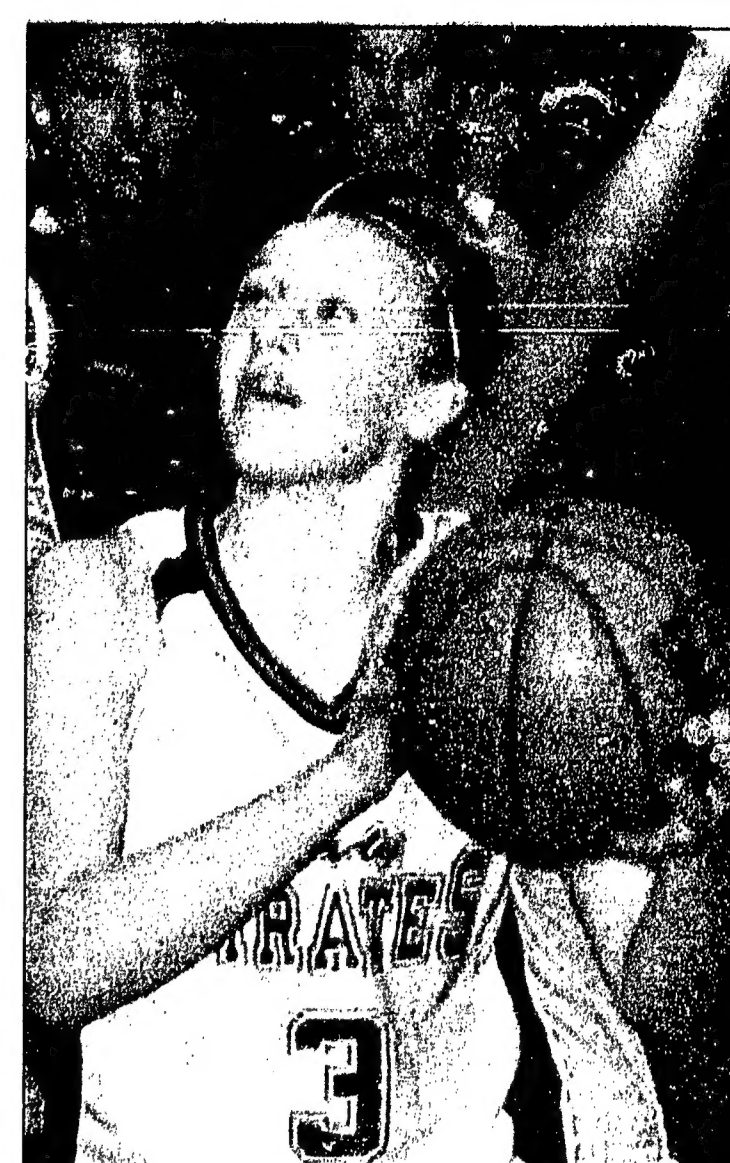
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PIRATES SCHEDULE



PLATTE COUNTY'S TAYLOR JOHNSON looks to score in the Basehor-Linwood Tournament. The Pirates enter with the league's best record.

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Men ready for regional rematch

By Brett Barger
University Sports Editor

Saturday's game between Northwest and Central Missouri won't quite have the MIAA implications it had last year.

Last year, Northwest dropped Central, 82-64, in a game that eventually helped Northwest to a share of the MIAA championship with Central.

This season, both teams are struggling to stay above water in the conference race. Entering Wednesday, both teams are 3-3 in the MIAA as a third of the conference season is complete.

Northwest dropped out of the Top 25, despite a 62-46 win over then No. 16 Pittsburg State last Saturday. The Bearcats, for at least one game, solved the defensive and shooting woes that have plagued the team, shooting 41 percent, and holding the Gorillas to 34 percent shooting.

"From here on out, we've got to make big strides," Lance Sullivan said after the win. "We know we have a good, solid team."

Central, which beat Northwest in last year's regional semifinal, had its 31-game home winning streak snapped by Emporia State in overtime. After starting 3-1, the Mules have dropped two-straight games entering Wednesday.

The Mules return two starters from a team that advanced to the Final Four last season. Nine different players have started this season, and are led in scoring by Joe Young, a junior college transfer, at 14 points per game. Four of Central's top-five scorers are transfers.

"They're very talented. That place is very committed to basketball," Northwest coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "They're going to be more of a reloading than a rebuilding situation usually. We're very familiar with many of the guys they signed."

See REMATCH on B2

Check Nwmissourianews.com for weekend basketball recaps.

(((N)))

INDOOR TRACK

Nebraska Invitational provides pleasant surprise

By Marcus Meade
Asst. Sports Editor

The consensus between the Bearcat men's and women's indoor track teams is that of pleasant surprise.

After a month-long layoff in between meets, both are ahead of where they thought they'd be heading into this weekend's Iowa State Open.

The 'Cats found out where they stood during the Nebraska Holiday Inn Invitational last weekend.

"It went real well for having been back only four days," men's coach Richard Alsop said. "Were there any great performances? No. But there were some real good performances."

Among those good performances included the men's sprinting group where sophomore John Miles finished third in the 60-meter dash, and junior Sheldon Cook finished seventh. Miles also finished in the Top-10 in the 200-meter dash along with freshman teammate Tommy Warren.

"We'll use these meets to get a feel for (where we are), and then, with what we need to improve on," Miles said.

comes from the addition of foot-ball players Cook and Kendall Wright, who finished sixth in the long jump.

While the men's team is adding members, the women's team is losing them to injury. But injuries give some of the younger athletes a chance to prove themselves.

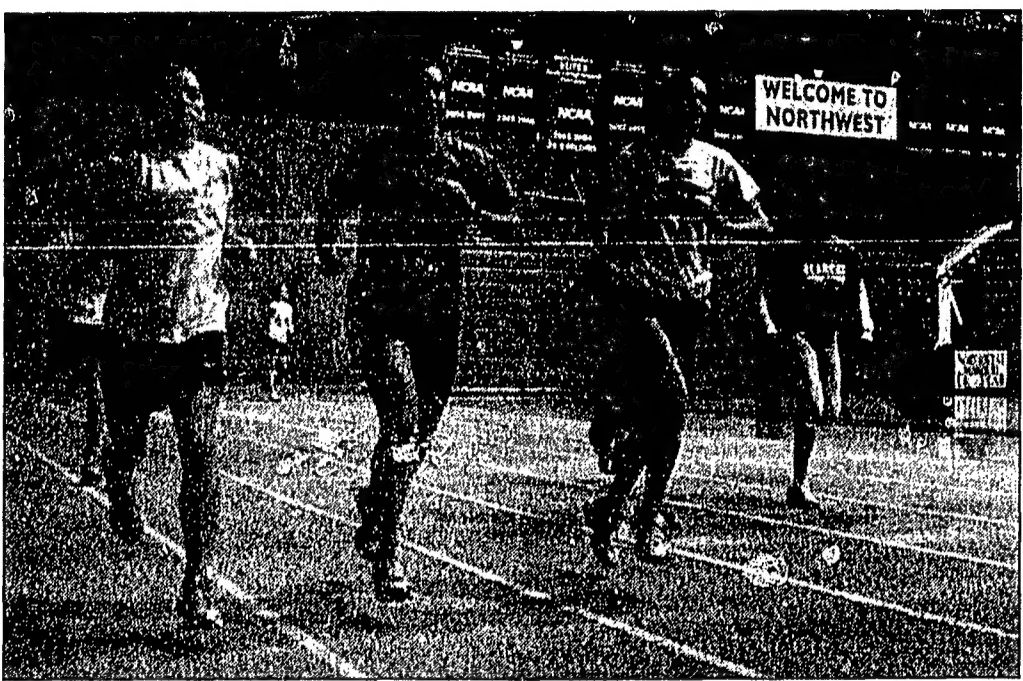
"Our freshmen are just doing a great job," women's coach Scott Lorek said. "In my mind, they're not performing like freshmen, they're performing like veterans."

The injuries remain for the 'Cats, as senior Karah Spader, freshman Mary Jantz and sophomore Lindsay Biermann won't participate in this weekend's meet.

Other runners proving themselves last weekend were juniors Anna O'Brien and Audrey Bailey. O'Brien posted a time of 10:27.28 in the 3000-meter run, a personal record and best in the conference, Lorek said.

Bailey finished sixth in her first ever 600-yard run.

"I really tried not to think about it too much, because if you analyze it, you won't do as well," Bailey said.



THE NORTHWEST WOMEN indoor track team warms up during practice Wednesday. Anna O'Brien recorded a conference-best 3,000-meter run last Saturday, at the Nebraska Holiday Inn Invitational.

All events, new and old, become more crucial with the conference championships just over one month away.

Through athletes don't earn team points in most of the meets this season, come conference time, they will. The men and women will take their next step toward the conference meet Friday in the Iowa State Open in Ames, Iowa.

BEARCATS

MEN'S STATISTICS

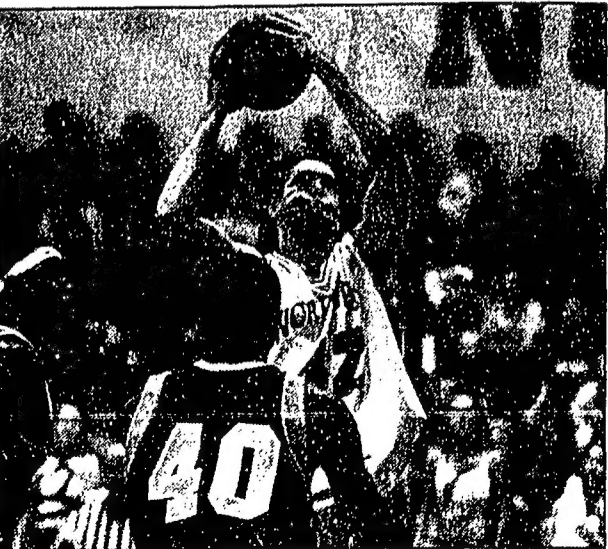
Northwest	Points/game	Opponent
73.9	Field goal pct.	59.9
45.4	Rebounds/game	41.2
36.4	Assists/game	32.5
14.2	Three point pct.	31.3
33.4	Turnovers/game	19.5
10.4	Steals/game	6.8
7.06	Free throw pct.	68
1.9	Blocks/game	3.0

CONFERENCE LEADERS

Scoring per game	Steals per game
1. C. Abernethy-ESU 20.4	1. S. Bowlin-MSSU 2.73
2. C. Abernethy-ESU 18.5	2. L. Sullivan-NW 2.27
3. L. Johnson-MWSU 18.3	2. L. Johnson-MWSU 2.27
13. H. Henry-NW 12.9	2. A. Byrd-UCM 2.27
16. L. Sullivan-NW 12.1	

Rebounds per game	Assists per game
1. C. Abernethy-ESU 10.3	1. D. Townsend-ESU 6.0
2. M. Rogers-SBU 8.3	2. B. Burgett-SBU 4.27
3. P. Fandja-TSU 8.2	3. M. Scott-WU 4.2
8. H. Henry-NW 7.1	

FG percentage	3-pt percentage
1. V. Atiba-MSSU 59.9	1. D. Harris-SBU 53.4
2. C. Abernethy-ESU 58.9	2. T. Steele-SBU 50.0
3. M. Rogers-SBU 58.2	3. J. Grabowski-SBU 45.7
6. H. Henry-NW 53.6	4. A. Peterson-NW 45.5



NORTHWEST CENTER MATT Withers mules his way towards the hoop against Missouri Southern. Northwest improved 4-0 against ranked teams last Saturday with a 62-46 win at Pittsburg State.

WOMEN'S STATISTICS

Northwest	Points/game	Opponent
74.9	Field goal pct.	65.9
41.1	Rebounds/game	40.8
39.5	Assists/game	38.1
16.1	Three point pct.	13.2
3.05	Turnovers/game	3.08
15.3	Steals/game	20.2
7.07	Free throw pct.	7.1
3.2	Blocks/game	7.40

CONFERENCE LEADERS

Scoring per game	Steals per game
1. G. Mueller-TSU 21.9	1. C. Woods-MWSU 3.21
2. M. Stueve-ESU 21.7	2. R. Graves-SBU 2.53
3. E. Souza-SBU 19.9	3. E. Souza-SBU 2.33
9. Schumacher-NW 14.6	10. K. Nelson-NW 1.93
20. A. Dill-NW 10.6	10. C. McGee-TSU 1.93

Rebounds per game	Assists per game
1. J. Jones-UCM 10.8	1. C. Woods-MWSU 4.71
2. G. Mueller-TSU 9.0	2. E. Souza-SBU 4.60
3. M. Stueve-ESU 8.7	3. L. Corder-ESU 4.13
7. M. Schumacher-NW 7.1	3.1. Wink-MSSU 4.13

FG percentage	3-pt percentage
1. M. Schumacher 62.6	1. A. Leiker-ESU 47.5
2. Haib'Api-MSSU-61.4	2. C. Boston-ESU 46.8
3. G. Mueller-TSU 54.3	3. M. Stueve-ESU 45.2
	9. K. Nelson-NW 37.4

For recaps of Wednesday's and Saturday's Northwest basketball contests check us out at...

NWmissourian.com

SPOOFHOUNDS

MHS BOYS' BASKETBALL

photo by Marcus Meade
Asst. Sports Editor



MARYVILLE SENIOR GUARD Andy Walker drives on a Savannah defender. Walker was the Spoofhounds' leading scorer with 18 points during their win against the Savages.

After week-long break, wrestlers bounce back

By Christopher Woodland
Missourian Reporter

Injuries didn't deter the Maryville wrestling team this week. After sitting five injured wrestlers last week in consecutive dual losses, the Spoofhounds bounced back with a 42-20 win against Benton Tuesday.

"We had a lot of injuries last week but we didn't have a tournament Saturday and they got rested up," Danner Merrill said. "The rest and recovery time allowed the 'Hounds to produce a full roster Tuesday, pinning three of their opponents in the process. Dakota Merrill, Tanner Archer, and Luke Lancaster recorded pins for Maryville."

Danner Merrill pulled out a tough 10-4 decision. "I came out strong, but got tired because of bad conditioning. I got a couple takedowns when I needed them but wrestled tired and pulled it out," Merrill said.

Ryan Phillippe lost by technical fall, while Matt Davis, Evan Johnson, and Tyler Hayse also suffered defeats. Heavyweight Jason Davis won by a decision.

"A couple matches looked like we needed more conditioning. We wrestled good but there's still room to improve," Danner Merrill said.

Maryville squares off in dual action tonight at Smithville before they host the Quad State Tournament Saturday. The Quad State tournament features nine schools from Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri. Smithville and Cameron are the lone conference schools attending the meet.

"If our kids wrestle well, we should be a contender at the end of the day," coach Joe Drake said. Danner Merrill thinks last week's rest should pay dividends in this weekend's tournament.

"We should be healthy this weekend, and if we wrestle smart and aggressively we should do well," he said.

Dueker fuels third-quarter offense

By Marcus Meade
Asst. Sports Editor

After one half of sloppy basketball, it looked like offense was outlawed in the game between the Spoofhounds and Savages, Tuesday night.

But a third quarter dominated by Maryville senior Aaron Dueker got the 'Hounds' offense going. Dueker ended the game with 13 points in the 45-41 'Hounds' victory.

"The second half, I felt we had a lot of energy," Maryville coach Mike Kuwitzky said. "Dueker was huge inside."

Dueker took advantage of his ability to get to the basket for easy buckets to the tune of 10 third-quarter points.

Led by Dueker, the 'Hounds' scored 17 points in the third quarter, nearly doubling their first half total.

If energetic described the second half of the contest, sloppy is the only word to describe the first. Missed shots, fouls and turnovers, led to an 8-5 score after the first quarter and a 18-16 halftime score.

"I think Maryville and us are similar teams," Savannah coach Nick Kemering said. "We both try

to take advantage of every possession, and that can make for an exciting game."

Kemering's bunch had a chance to tie the game with two 3-point attempts with less than 10 seconds remaining, but couldn't make either shot.

"We had the ball in our best three-point shooter's hands, Travis Partridge," Kemering said. "If we had to take it again, we'd want the same shot."

Partridge finished the game with 10 points while Quinton Peak led the Savages with 13. Andy Walker led the 'Hounds with 18 points while Seth Staashelm added eight.

The win against Savannah is the second in a row for the 'Hounds' with the first coming Jan. 18 against Chillicothe, another MEC opponent.

"Getting two wins against Chillicothe and Savannah, two hard-nosed teams is just really good for our ball club," Kuwitzky said.

Maryville continues its season against conference foe Benton and their highly publicized Division 1 prospect Johnny Cox. The game begins at 5 p.m., Friday, in Maryville. The 'Hounds end their four-game home stand against Platte County, Tuesday.

Spoofhound wrestling notebook

Injuries heal, winning resumes

By Sam Robinson
Asst. Sports Editor

After spending last week without five performers, the Maryville wrestling team's season was on the verge of unraveling.

But, after a convincing 42-20 win over MEC foe Benton Tuesday night, it appears coach Joe Drake made the correct move in resting his wounded grapplers. Dakota Merrill, Zach Sheiber and Matt Davis returned to action Tuesday, replacing key gaps in the lineup that existed against Cameron and Platte County.

Merrill, who is battling a dislocated elbow, pinned Benton's Brody Conroy in 2:42, while Sheiber won via forfeit. Davis would go on to lose his match 17-11, to Spencer Brown.

Evan Johnson, who continues to battle a rib injury, lost via pin at the 2:09 mark. Danner Merrill, who moved from 119 to 125 pounds for the first time all season, and heavyweight Jason Davis continued their victory streaks Tuesday. Merrill won a 10-4 decision over Tanner Murphy, while Davis won a 4-2 decision over Nick Tate.

Heavyweight battles In Saturday's Quad State meet, Davis' winning ways will be put to their toughest test, as Class 1's No. 1 heavyweight, Trenton's Zach Kinnison, is in his bracket. Maryville, who has hosted the meet for over a decade, will compete against nine schools from Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska. Since it's the final home meet, senior night will be held prior to the action.

Up next At Smithville — 6:30 p.m., tonight Quad State Meet — 10 a.m., Saturday at home At Savannah — 6:30 p.m., Tuesday

Spoofhound boys' basketball notebook

'Hounds win tight contest

By Marcus Meade
Asst. Sports Editor

The Spoofhounds received an offensive boost from senior Aaron Dueker in their 45-41 win over the Savannah Savages, Tuesday. Dueker sparked an offense that had only produced 18 points in the first quarter by providing 10 in the third quarter and 13 for the game.

The 'Hounds have now won two games in a row over conference foes Chillicothe and Savannah.

Keeping it close The 'Hounds appear to be the type of team that loves to play in tight games. Their last two were both last second victories over Chillicothe and Savannah, and they've also had tough losses to St. Joseph Central and Liberty.

Some of this can be attributed to the 'Hounds' ball control offense. No team scored over 50 points in either the Chillicothe or Savannah games.

Ageless Mike Kuwitzky definitely has experience on his side. The 'Hounds start five seniors while playing three juniors as well. And while the play can at times get sloppy, Kuwitzky defines his squad as a team full of hard workers.

"We're a ball club team," Kuwitzky said. "Everything we get, we earn."

Up next Benton: freshmen, JV, varsity, 3 p.m., Friday at Maryville Platte County: freshman, JV, varsity, Jan. 29 at Maryville Smithville: JV, varsity, 5:30 p.m., Feb. 1 at Smithville

Spoofhound girls' basketball notebook

After Pirates' clash, Savages loom

By Sam Robinson
Community Sports Editor

After a 51-39 victory over Class 2, No. 2 North Platte Friday night, the Maryville girls' basketball team has an imposing weekend ahead.

Tonight, they tangle with Platte County, who leads the conference and is ranked No. 4 in Class 4. Friday, they travel to Savannah to face a 'Savages' squad that fell by only three to defending state-champion Benton in December, 34-31.

The Pirates (14-1) and the Savages (12-3) duelled in Savannah Wednesday night (results not available at press time).

Sophomore guard Emily Kisker said Savannah and Platte County's styles differ greatly with Savannah's attack utilizing Maryville's up-tempo game, while Platte County utilizes the inside presence of 6-foot-4 post player Morgan Johnson.

"Our styles are the same," Kisker said. "We're planning on getting up and down the floor. We're also going to need really good defense to step up to Savannah."

Kisker and backcourt mate Mercedes Scott may have their hands full with Savannah's Kate Gallagher, who averages close to five steals and assists per game.

The Savages are coming off a 54-37 win over Class 5 Truman in the third-place game of the Truman Tournament. Chelsea Verbeck had 18 points, while Sara Esden had 17. Turnovers a concern In Friday's game, the one statistic that troubled coach Grant Hageman were turnovers.

If the Spoofhounds gave the ball to the Panthers 25 times. To have a chance against Platte County or Savannah, he said that number must be limited to at least 15.

Up next Platte County — JV, Varsity 5 p.m., tonight At Savannah — Freshmen, JV, Varsity 5 p.m., Friday

OBSTACLE: No. 4-ranked Pirates bring Cinderella season's toughest challenge

Continued from B1

They have won games over conference foes (Cameron and Lafayette), and ranked teams (North Platte). Maryville also grabbed its first tournament win in three years in December's LeBlond Holiday Tournament.

Using up to 11 players in an unusually deep rotation, the 'Hounds have been able to wear down opponents with a run-and-gun style attack that is far different from the slower-paced offenses they've used in the past.

With the exception of Gadbois and fellow senior Leah Wilmes, who still see significant playing time, underclassmen have been the driving force behind this

surprising season. Kisker and Scott are the top scoring options and each averages over 13 points per game, while freshman Shannon McClellan has emerged as a top guard off the bench.

Hageman said the seniors' leadership and willingness to accept slightly lesser roles has been vital to the turnaround.

"That's been one of the biggest reasons for our success," he said. "Seniors, juniors, everybody has accepted their roles. They're willing to do whatever it takes to be on a winning team."

Inside, Megan Walker, who is averaging more than seven rebounds per game, and sophomore Tracy Jensen are filling the shoes of longtime post player Jaclyn Guess.

Walker and Jensen's presence keyed Maryville's 18-5 fourth-quarter scoring run against North Platte, as Jensen notched multiple blocks, while Walker scored each of her six points in the final quarter.

The post players will likely be counted on more than ever tonight with Platte County possessing a weapon the likes of which Maryville has yet to encounter. Platte County's 6-foot-4 post player, Morgan Johnson, averages over 15 points per game and stands five inches taller than either of the 'Hounds' two inside players.

Gadbois thinks having both post players on the court at once will probably be required to stop the tallest Pirate.

"We're going to have to stop her

inside," she said. "We definitely need them (Walker and Jensen) out there because Tracy blocks shots and they can push her out of the post and make her work harder than she's ever had to work before."

It won't just be Johnson the 'Hounds must contain. Junior guard Cheyenne Verdoorn, who averages over 13 points per game, leads an experienced backcourt.

Platte County did suffer its first loss in the Baschior-Linwood (Kan.) tournament to the host school, but beat St. Teresa's and Class 5A Bonner Springs prior to the defeat.

"They're the real deal," Hageman said. "They have some really good guards that understand their offense and they do what they do well. You can't just guard

one or two, you've got to know where everybody's at."

Scott's free throw swished through the net, perhaps the final sign that a monumental upset may be within reach and that, for the first time in five years, the 'Hounds may have a team that is capable of toppling the MEC's best.

"I don't even know how to describe it," Hageman said of a prospective victory. "It would be one of the most important wins we've had in who knows how many years. Our girls are excited for the challenge and that's half the battle. They're excited to get out here on our home floor and play one of the best teams in the state. We're excited about the opportunity to get out there and get a win."

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Withers

The senior forward from Taylorsville, Utah, averaged 14 points and five rebounds in two games against Missouri Southern, and last Saturday against Pittsburg State.

Schumacher

The senior forward from Columbus, Neb., averaged 21 points and 7.5 rebounds in two games, earning MIAA Player of the Week honors.

Scott

The sophomore guard led the Spoofhounds with 13 points in their 51-39 victory over Class 2 No. 2 North Platte, Jan. 18.

Walter

The senior guard led Maryville in scoring in both games this week. Walter scored 22 against Chillicothe and 18 against Savannah.

Favre's title-game collapse not surprising to editor

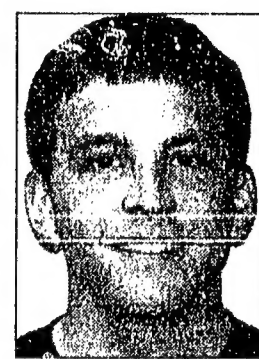
Community sports editor Sam Robinson put it best when saying that last Sunday's NFC game was why people love sports.

You had it all. An underdog was on the verge of victory, then trying to give the victory away. Spectators experienced heartache, jubilation, heartache again and then euphoria all within the time span of five minutes when Lawrence Tynes went from goal to hero.

The general sports fans were also exposed to something that I've seen for the past decade — Brett Favre's inability to deliver during crunch time.

New! I know, it's like realizing Santa Claus isn't real for the first time (sorry Marc, jolly old Saint Nick is just a figment of your imagination).

Now, the unbiased media constantly circles Favre with a love parade because he's so interesting and such a class act, therefore, no one should point out that this is the same person who holds the record for throwing the most career interceptions.



Scott Leviene
Sports Editor

Super Bowl.

I know, I know. If you're still reading and haven't thrown the newspaper in the trash can yet, you probably think I'm as sane as Skip Bayless. But take a gander at the facts.

Sure, Brett has started in more consecutive games than any other quarterback. But, is that statistic still as relevant as it was maybe 20 years ago?

The NFL treats quarterbacks better than an 80-year-old man suffering from a termi-

nal illness. If a defensive lineman breathes too heavily on Favre, referees march off a 15-year penalty for roughing the quarterback. Yes, I actually mean year.

Did I also mention Favre has the mark for the most career interceptions? Oh I guess I did, but to be fair, I guess he owns the career touchdown record. Too bad it took him 94 fewer games than George Blanda to attain the career interceptions mark, while it took him three more games to break Dan Marino's career touchdown record.

Many will argue that he owns seven miscellaneous records, but if every player were a glory hog like Favre and wanted to stunt his team's growth like he has for most of this decade, then I'm sure most of those records would be harder to obtain.

Even though he does own these records, it doesn't excuse him from shaky decision-making towards the end of games. The "gunslinger" as most pundits call him, slings too many balls into the opposing team's hands at game's end, instead of helping his team to victory.

Favre has averaged 1.12 interceptions per game. NFL great Joe Montana averaged

0.72 interceptions per game, while Trent Dilfer, who owns the same number of rings as Favre, averaged 0.95 interceptions per game in his career.

After selling his soul to the devil and claiming his elusive title (you can thank Sam's '96 Broncos for giving that one away), Favre has literally done nothing but give opposing teams a chance to advance in the playoffs.

He's 5-7 in the playoffs since his Packers won the Super Bowl, and since his last appearance in the big game, he has 18 interceptions compared to 13 touchdowns passes. With his latest two interceptions against the Giants, Favre joined Jim Kelly as owning the most career playoff interceptions thrown.

Most likely the planets will align again next year and Favre will end his "I think I might retire tour" and rejoin his beloved Cheeseheads. And if we're lucky he'll leave everyone in thinking he's still that same boy slinging the ball around the back yard, while still displaying his wonderful knack of giving the opposing team a great shot at the Super Bowl.

Like scheduling tough teams, as Wichita Heights beat them 87-24

WHAT TO WATCH?

Scott's TV Picks

Friday

■ *Love Improvement*, 11:30 a.m. TBS — Tim "the toolman" Taylor gets himself in trouble when his boss Bud gets a divorce. Will decides they need marriage counseling and hilarity ensues.

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

Saturday

■ *Conzaga* at Memphis, 11:00 a.m. ESPN — This is the only team that could derail a perfect season for Memphis.

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

Sunday

■ *Varsity Blues*, noon TBS — TBS remedies football fans with four movies involving football.

Days rating (2 of 5)

4.4

Marc's TV Picks

Friday

■ *Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back*, 7 a.m. HBO — Setting my DVR for this masterpiece of American cinema.

Days rating (2 of 5)

4.4

Saturday

■ *Wisconsin* at Purdue, 3 p.m. ESPN — I became a fan of the Badgers watching home-grown Zach Morley play for them. I love Bo Ryan, back-out basketball.

Days rating (4 of 5)

4.4

Sunday

■ *We Are Marshall*, 10:30 a.m. HBO — I've never seen it, but it has Matthew McConaughey so it must be good.

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

Sam's TV Picks

Friday

■ *Leverage* 9:00-10:30 p.m. SOAP — This is comedy at its finest with Luke Perry and Jason Priestley uttering priceless lines with straight faces and '90s flat tops. If you don't believe me, watch the intro. You'll be laughing within 10 seconds.

Days rating (2 of 5)

4.4

Saturday

■ *Georgetown* at West Virginia, 6 p.m. ESPN — There's a good chance Bill Raftery will be calling this one, which is enough.

Days rating (4 of 5)

4.4

Sunday

■ *Demolition Man*, 10:30 p.m., TBS — Stallone, Snipes and Bullock star in one of the action decade's better explosion films.

Days rating (2 of 5)

4.4

Brett's TV Picks

Friday

■ *Seinfeld*, TBS, 4 p.m. — This is the episode that highlights the first 100 episodes of the show. Great highlight reel stuff.

Days rating (4 of 5)

4.4

Saturday

■ *No. 9 Georgetown* at West Virginia, ESPN 6 p.m. — Hopefully the Hoyas will beat the snout out of the Mountaineers, because Bobby Huggins is a tool.

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

Sunday

■ *Family Guy*, FOX 8 p.m. — Meg finds true love. Wow!

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

POWER RANKINGS

MEC Boys

Team

1. Benton
2. Smithville
3. Lafayette
4. Platte County
5. Cameron
6. Maryville
7. Chillicothe
8. Savannah

Up next:

1. Benton: at Maryville
2. Smithville: at Cameron Tourn.
3. Lafayette: vs. Savannah
4. Platte County: at Savannah
5. Cameron: Cameron Tournament
6. Maryville: vs. Benton
7. Chillicothe: vs. Smithville
8. Savannah: Cameron Tournament

MEC Girls

Team

1. Platte County
2. Benton
3. Savannah
4. Maryville
5. Smithville
6. Chillicothe
7. Cameron
8. Lafayette

Up next:

1. Platte County: at Maryville
2. Benton: at Cameron Tourn.
3. Savannah: vs. Maryville
4. Maryville: vs. Platte County
5. Smithville: Cameron Tournament
6. Chillicothe: at Kearney
7. Cameron: vs. Benton
8. Lafayette: at Savannah

SPORTS STAFF GAME PICKS

* We at the Northwest Missourian do not acknowledge the NBA as an actual sports organization. Therefore, no NBA picks.

Scott's picks

Prediction Record (4-0)
NCAA Lock
Washington Arizona State — Arizona State The Sun Devils lost a tough one at Stanford, but this one is in their back yard. No way the Huskies go in and win this one.

NCAA Lock
Cincinnati at Fairfield — Fairfield The Slugs dropped a close one in a row, before beating powerhouse St. Peter's. This is a guarantee. Also, I hear Cincinnati was involved in a recruiting episode involving dirty tactics. More on that in a later issue.

NCAA Upset Alert
Utah State at New Mexico St. — NMSU I remember picking Utah State to the sweet 16 one year and they failed me. Bet on the Aggies in this one. It's false: Trust me.

NCAA Upset Alert
Clemson at Miami (Fla.) — Miami Clemson always loses games towards season's end.

Brett's picks

Prediction Record (3-1)
NCAA Lock
Duke at Virginia Tech — Duke The Dukes are starting to surprise me. I'm pretty sure they should defeat the Hokies pretty handily.

NCAA Lock
Nebraska at Kansas — Kansas I'm picking KU to pad my record in this competition. The Jayhawks rebound from a dismal performance against Missouri.

NCAA Upset Alert
Centenary at UMKC — UMKC Does anybody care about this game? I don't, but the 'Roos are pretty close to Maryville, so they have to win. Right?

NCAA Upset Alert
Texas A&M at Oklahoma State — OK State The Aggies' decline continues as fans begin to question the hiring of Mark Turgeon. The Cowboys nearly pulled it out against Texas, surely they can pull it out against the Aggies.

Sam's picks

Prediction Record (3-1)
NCAA Lock
Iowa State at Kansas State — Kansas State Sorry, Scott, ISU's going down here. They simply won't be able to recover after falling to KU. Plus, I hear Rashon Clark may be involved in a point-shaving scandal. You may want to look into it.

NCAA Lock
Quinnipiac at Sacred Heart — Sacred Heart In one of the MEC's finest matchups, Sacred Heart downs the 'Pacmen (nickname I just made up).

NCAA Upset Alert
Georgetown at West Virginia — WVA My 'Cuse should've beaten GTown in regulation were it not for some horrendous overtime play. How do you go scoreless the entire OT?

NCAA Upset Alert
Xavier at UMass — UMass Xavier doesn't play too well on the road and the Minutemen will take advantage and bump the X-Men out of the Top 25.

Marc's picks

Prediction Record (3-0)
NCAA Lock
Alabama at Auburn — Auburn Alabama hasn't won a conference game yet, and Auburn helped me last week. Auburn's athleticism is too much for the Tide.

NCAA Lock
Texas Tech at Texas — Texas I'm expecting Texas to keep winning since the loss to Missouri should still haunt them. Plus I hate Bob Knight.

NCAA Upset Alert
Oklahoma at Baylor — Oklahoma I'm hoping that Baylor will wake up and understand they're Baylor ... They shouldn't be winning.

NCAA Upset Alert
Missouri at Colorado — Colorado Colorado is awful, but Missouri's awful on the road. I doubt Mike Anderson will find a way to get his boys ready to go into Boulder and give them 40 minutes of hell.

Brett's picks

Prediction Record (3-0)
NCAA Lock
Seinfeld, TBS, 4 p.m. — This is the episode that highlights the first 100 episodes of the show. Great highlight reel stuff.

Days rating (2 of 5)

4.4

Saturday

■ *No. 9 Georgetown* at West Virginia, ESPN 6 p.m. — Hopefully the Hoyas will beat the snout out of the Mountaineers, because Bobby Huggins is a tool.

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

Sunday

■ *Family Guy*, FOX 8 p.m. — Meg finds true love. Wow!

Days rating (3 of 5)

4.4

AT YOUR LEISURE

TOP PICKS

Top 5 picks for this week

By Sydney Moore
Entertainment Reporter

■ **Top song on iTunes this week:** "Low" by Flo Rida ft. Timbaland
The debut single from Flo Rida's album, "Mail on Sunday" is tearing up the charts and helping his career get off the ground.

The catchy song that has made "Apple Bottom Jeans" and "boots with the fur" wildly popular has peaked at the No. 1 spot on iTunes this week.

■ **Web site worth checking out:** Holliesquotes.com

This Web site is the perfect site for the people (myself included) who love to use cheesy lines from movies, TV shows and even popular songs to describe exactly how they feel at the time.

The quotes come in handy for the infamous Facebook status, (finally "is" less) emotional IM away messages or simply because you can relate to a particular situation.

The quotes come from sources that range from popular movies and TV shows from the past couple decades, random song lyrics and even original work by the site's creator, Hollie Seals, a 20-something year old from North Carolina who started the site when she was 12 years old.

The site consists of 13 different sections of quotes, covering everything from happy quotes about love to friendship and even a special section for quotes only from the hit show "One Tree Hill."

■ **Movie worth renting on a Saturday night:** "Waitress"

The film, starring Keri Russell ("Felicity") and Nathan Fillion ("Buffy The Vampire Slayer") tells the story of a very unhappy waitress, Jenna, who has a niche for baking pies to deal with her problems.

Jenna finds out that she is pregnant by her abusive and controlling husband, who is trying to prevent her from entering the local pie-baking contest. Throughout her pregnancy, Jenna becomes involved in an unlikely romance with her attractive — and married — doctor.

With the new romance blossoming, a troubled marriage and a baby on the way, "Waitress" is sure to serve up plenty of laughs and even a few tears.

The flick is perfect for a girls night in and will certainly put you in the mood to create your own new pie.

■ **Check out the highlight of every American Idol season:** the auditions.

Each year, we watch the hottest new talent from across the nation perform every genre of music in front of a live audience.

But what about the ones that didn't make it into the Top 24 — the ones who came out and gave it their all in their crazy outfits and that made you wonder if they could actually hear themselves.

The first few weeks of the show are the most entertaining for sure, with Simon's rude comments, Paula's sweet side and Randy's upbeat attitude.

After the auditions, the trio actually has to get down to business and make someone's dreams of being a musician come true.

When it comes to start voting for favorites, be sure to stay caught up with the American Idol blog at Nwmissourianews.com.

Classifieds

#1 Spring Break Website 4 & 7 night trips to BahamaParadise, PanamaCity, Acapulco, Cancun and more. Low prices guaranteed. Group discounts for 8+. Book 20 people, get 3 free trips! Campus reps needed. www.StudentCity.com or 800-293-1445.

For Sale: 1997 Mercury Sable, V6, auto loaded. Runs good. Great school car. \$2,700 or best offer. 660-582-8208 or 816-390-6477.

STROLLER

Your Man wants youth to vote

Are we talking about elections already? Wow, it seems only yesterday everyone was trashing talking John Kerry and George W. Bush from topics as important as lesbian daughters, promiscuous daughters and promiscuous lesbian daughters.

In 10 months, the United States will elect its new leader. Old people will walk to the polls ... slowly. Young people will sit back and watch the winners' name's

crawl by under the new-age, pseudo-reality of "The Hills" or "America's Most Smartest, Bonest, Most Heroin Addicted Top Model."

But there seems to be a flaw in our system. Old people vote and young people don't. Why? Why do people with one foot in the grave get to elect officials they won't be alive to see operate, while the young adults who will one day run this country sit idly by.

That doesn't seem right, so I'm getting political.

I'm sorry grandma and grandpa, but you're not going to be around to enjoy the labors of our next president. You'll either be back under the Lincoln administration in heaven or the Reagan administration in hell.

It makes no sense for old people to vote and young people to sit back and have the old-folks-home dictate the future of this country.

Year after year, they turn out in droves like there's an early-



The Stroller

bird special on high-waters.

I have some advice for you old people ... give up, and I mean that in a good way. Stop caring. It's time for you to adopt the motto of your grandchildren. Enjoy your last few years on Earth without the burden of caring about who's the "good morals" candidate (in reality every candidate has some skeletons in his/her closet ... probably next to the dead street walkers).

But first, I have a job for the elderly. Teach my generation your ways. Teach us to care about who runs this country and how they run it.

We don't know what global warming or stem-cell research are, or where to find Iraq on a map, but I want us to make decisions on these important subjects anyway.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

INFOTAINMENT COLUMN

Everything I need to know I learned from Heath Ledger

By Sydney Moore
Entertainment Reporter

Movie fans around the world are heartbroken this week.

Popular actor Heath Ledger, from "Brokeback Mountain" and "A Knight's Tale" fame passed away in his Manhattan apartment Tuesday at the age of 28.

As such a diverse and well-respected actor, it only seems natural that we look back at Ledger's life — from his wide variety of films, his personal life and most importantly, what we learned from the handsome Aussie.

Who exactly was Heath Ledger and what exactly did he do?

Ledger was born and raised in western Australia before captivating American audiences in 1999 with his debut role in "10 Things I Hate About You," alongside Julia Stiles. After becoming a teen heartthrob, the next three years were great for Ledger. He earned a predominant role in "The Patriot," (2000), co-starring with Mel Gibson and then grabbed a role in the 2001 smash hit "A Knight's Tale." During the same year, Ledger also landed a spot in the Oscar-winning flick, "Monster's Ball."

In 2005, Ledger landed a very controversial role in "Brokeback Mountain," a film that focused mainly on the homosexual relationship of Wyoming ranchers in the 1960s. After much dispute and controversy, Ledger snagged an Oscar nomination for the role, along with co-star Michelle Williams.

An Oscar nomination wasn't the only thing that Ledger and Williams found they had in common. The pair started dating during filming of "Brokeback Mountain" and later welcomed a daughter, Matilda Rose Ledger, into the world on Oct. 28, 2005. After a two-year relationship, the pair suddenly split up.

But what about the ones that didn't make it into the Top 24 — the ones who came out and gave it their all in their crazy outfits and that made you wonder if they could actually hear themselves.

The first few weeks of the show are the most entertaining for sure, with Simon's rude comments, Paula's sweet side and Randy's upbeat attitude.

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Heath Ledger
Actor

in October 2007.

Lessons from Ledger — what we took from the star

Any guy can be a knight in shining armor, right?

Ledger taught us in "A Knight's Tale" that even if you are a nobody from nowhere, fate could be on your side. Also, that you can look really good in a full suit of armor.

You can fight for your country and still hit it off with the ladies.

In the Revolutionary War hit, "The Patriot," Ledger plays the role of Mel Gibson's son, proving that you can get battered and bruised defending your country and still win the hearts of millions of females around the world.

You aren't the world's biggest need if you incorporate your high school marching band when you serenade your high school sweetheart.

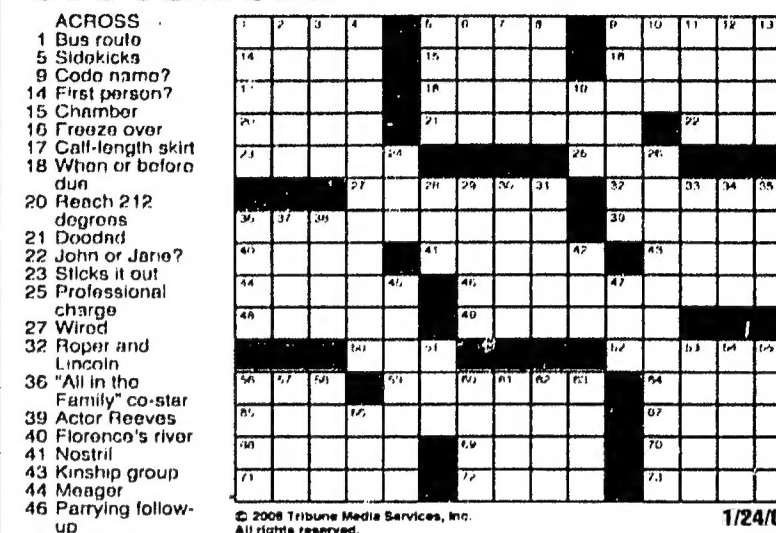
In "10 Things I Hate About You," Ledger played the bad boy that we all loved. He captured the heart of every teen girl in 1999 (and still continues to capture mine when I replay the scene) when he dances across the bleachers belting out "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," accompanied by the high school band.

It's OK to be gay — really. Ledger stepped up and took the role in "Brokeback Mountain" regardless of the debate surrounding it. In a time when homosexuality was frowned upon, Ledger found love in an unsuspecting partner and showed the world that all you need is love — regardless of gender.

In his last ride as The Joker in the much anticipated film "The Dark Knight" in July, Ledger sums up his intentions throughout his entire career with one simple line, "Let's put a smile on that face."

He certainly made us smile.

Crossword



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1/24/08

Solutions



MOVIE REVIEW

'Cloverfield' redefines the typical monster movie, soon to be a classic

By Brian Johnson
Assistant Features Editor

There's hope that movies won't suck in 2008 with J.J. Abrams' terrifyingly wonderful "Cloverfield." The highly anticipated monster movie from the genius mind that brought you "Lost" and "Alias" has brought another creation to the table, this time on the silver screen.

The story takes place in New York City on a night when a mysterious monster attacks the city and a group of friends are on a quest to stay alive. I'll admit the film's concept is a little dated, but it doesn't really matter when the imagery and terror that Abrams' has created.

This was the first PG-13 rated movie I have seen since I was a kid that truly terrified me. I don't know if it was the hype leading up to the movie or finally seeing the actual monster that scared me the most, but all of it just came to fruition in this thrilling masterpiece.

The promotion started with the release of an untitled trailer last summer. There was also a viral marketing campaign carried out by using the Internet for promotion, all the while not letting you know what the monster looked like. You may remember seeing the untitled trailer last summer when you went to see "Transformers" and thought "I have to see this movie." It definitely lived up to the hype in my eyes.

The film incorporated some original concepts that make this movie almost completely different from any other movie you will see in 2008. Filmed from the perspective of a handheld video camera, the film truly draws the audience in and makes them feel like they are really running away from the monster



like the cast.

The film starts off by making you think you are viewing a top-secret government file and that it means the story is a government cover-up. This should be an indication that the situation probably didn't turn out OK for the characters, but the audience is left to make their own conclusions at the end of the film as well.

If the terrorizing monster wasn't enough to worry about, it appears to have dog-sized offspring falling from it with highly infectious bites. This segment of the film follows the same formula that the "Alien" series of having a host and an offspring. I don't see this as copying though, because if anything it's a tribute.

The most terrifying thing about this movie is that you feel like you've been in the movie before. This film really is an illusion of the events of Sept. 11, 2001 and it scares you to death because of the confusion and terror that surrounded that day. Also, the fact that the film took place in New York is probably not a coincidence. Every emotion that you went through that day is felt in this movie. Fear, uncertainty and most of all, grief overwhelms you from start to finish.

I'm actually not hoping that too many movies follow in the footsteps of "Cloverfield," because they probably won't be able to do such a good job as Abrams did. The man's creative mind has made the next great classic along with "Frankenstein," "Dracula," and the all too obvious, "Godzilla."



“Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.”

Martin Luther King Jr.
Civil rights leader, clergyman
1929-1968

Col rblind

Black History Month is upon us, beginning in February. It is a time when we must all reflect on the words, actions and teachings of influential black Americans. It is also a time to listen to our peers reflect on what Black History Month means to them. Compiled on this page are famous

quotes by just a few of the many influential black Americans, as well as quotes from others expressing what Black History Month has taught them and what we still need to learn. Read below to see some of the issues we all still face when it comes to race.

“While I know myself as a creation of God, I am also obligated to realize and remember that everyone else and everything else are also God's creation.”

Maya Angelou
Writer, dancer, activist 1928-



Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream. What's yours?

“My dream is to grow up and become a successful, strong, African-American woman.”

Rachel Lewis
Accounting



“But there are certain very practical things American Negro writers can do. And must do. There's a song that says, 'the time ain't long.' That song is right. Something has got to change in America—and change soon. We must help that change to come.”

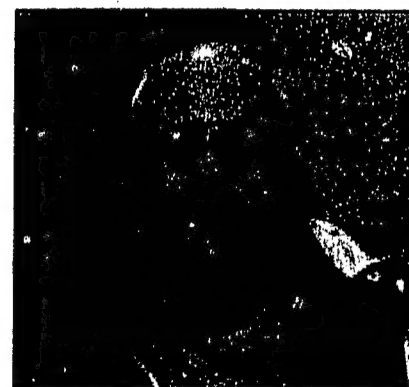
Langston Hughes
Poet, writer, playwright 1902-1967



Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream, what's yours?

“My dream would be for kids to have an equal opportunity with education.”

Samantha Wylie
Mathematics and Math Education



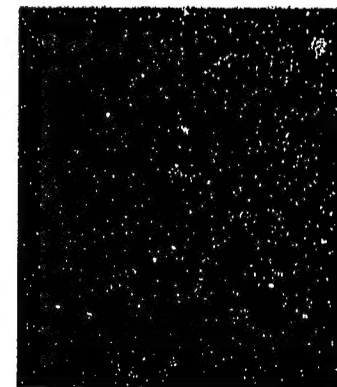
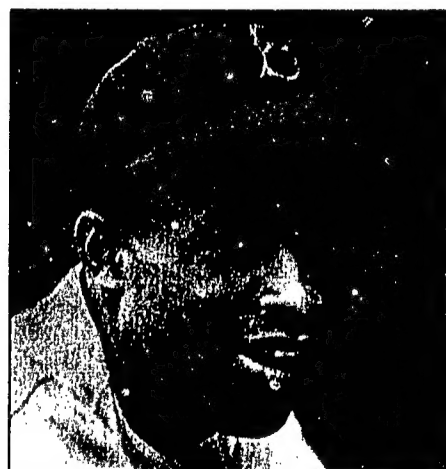
Do you think Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream came true?

“No it has not. We still have a lot of discrimination in this country.”

Cliff Wilson
Finance, Business Economics

I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me... All I ask is that you respect me as a human being.”

Jackie Robinson
Baseball player 1919-1972



How can we continue Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy?

“Just through a spirit of brotherhood. Skin color doesn't matter, it's what's on the inside that counts.”

David Struve
Social Science Education, History



“Most leaders spend time trying to get others to think highly of them, when instead they should try to get their people to think more highly of themselves.

It's wonderful when the people believe in their leader.

It's more wonderful when the leader believes in their people!

You can't hold a man down without staying down with him.”

Booker T. Washington
Writer, educator, leader 1856-1915



How can we continue Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy?

“We can continue to work equally in all aspects of life and treat people like family.”

Stephanie Hurd
Psychology/Sociology

“Just don't give up on trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong.”

Ella Fitzgerald
Jazz Singer 1917-1996

